

# Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) Website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: 582-7800 Wednesday, March 9, 2011

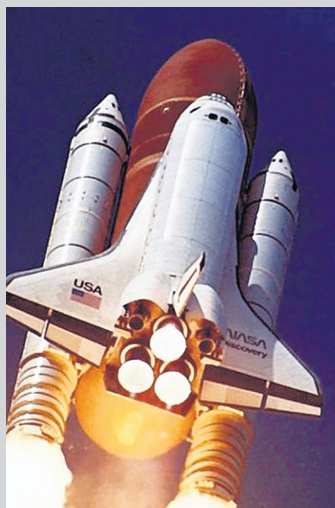
## Tiger Talk



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, lines up a putt on the second green while playing Ben Crane during the second round of the Match Play Championship golf tournament Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011, in Marana, Ariz.

Read Aruba Today Sports

## FOR SALE



Condition: 27 years old, 150 million miles traveled, somewhat dinged but well maintained.

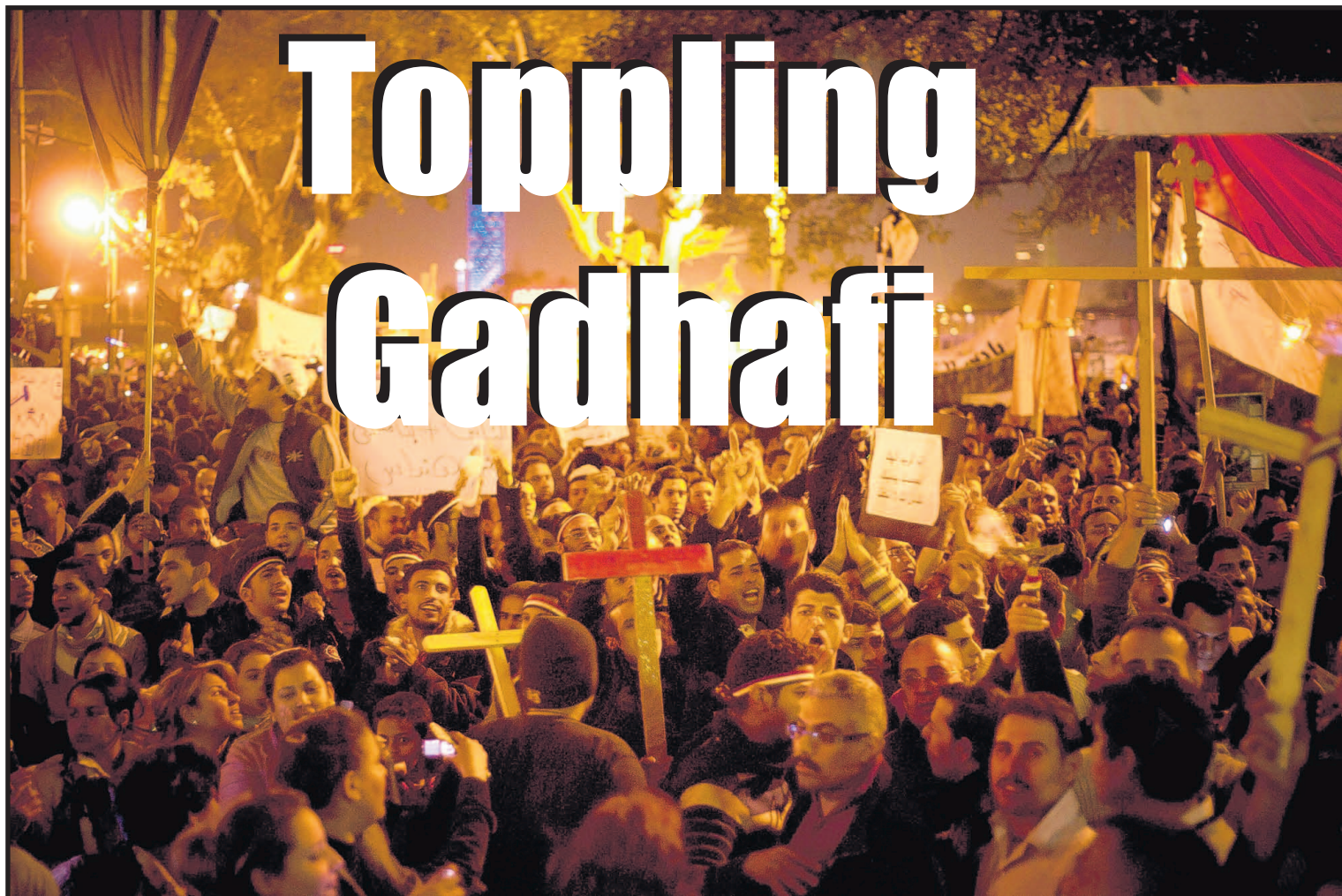
Price: \$0.

Dealer preparation and destination charges: \$28.8 million.

So, does anyone want to buy a used space shuttle? Yes, it turns out.

See page A2

# Toppling Gadhafi



By ANTHONY SHADID and KAREEM FAHIM

© 2011 New York Times

BENGHAZI, Libya – In less than three weeks, an inchoate opposition in Libya, one of the world's most isolated countries, has cobbled together the semblance of a transitional government, fielded a ragtag rebel army and portrayed itself to the West and Libyans as an alternative to Moammar Gadhafi's four decades of freakish rule.

But events this week have tested the viability of an opposition that has yet to coalesce, even as it solicits help from abroad to topple Gadhafi. Rebels were dealt military setbacks in Zawiyah and the on outskirts of Ras Lanuf on Tuesday, part of a strengthening government counteroffensive. Meanwhile, the opposition council's leaders contradicted one another publicly. The opposition's calls for foreign aid have amplified divisions over intervention. And

provisional leaders warn that a humanitarian crisis may loom as people's needs overwhelm fledgling local governments.

"I am Libya," Gadhafi boasted after the uprising erupted. It was standard fare for one of the world's most outrageous leaders – megalomania so pronounced that it sounded like parody. It underlined, though, the greatest and perhaps fatal obstacle facing the rebels here – forging a substitute to Gadhafi in a state that he embodied.

"We've found ourselves in a vacuum," Mustafa Gheriani, an acting spokesman for the provisional leadership, said Tuesday in Benghazi, the rebel capital. "Instead of worrying about establishing a transitional government, all we worry about are the needs – security, what people require, where the uprising is going. Things are moving too fast."

"This is all that's left," he said, lifting his cellphone, "and we can only receive calls."

The question of the opposition's capabilities is likely to prove decisive to the fate of the rebellion, which appears outmatched by government forces and troubled by tribal divisions that the government, reverting to form, has sought to exploit. Rebel forces are fired more by enthusiasm than experience. The political leadership has virtually begged the international community to recognize it, but it has yet to marshal opposition forces abroad or impose its authority in regions it nominally controls.

Organizers acknowledge the chaos but contend that there is no one else to talk to.

"We require support, whether it's military or otherwise, we require help," Abdel-Hafidh Ghoga, the deputy leader of the provisional leadership, told a news conference in Benghazi.

"The international community has to assume its duty at this point."

While the mood remains ebullient in parts of eastern Libya, largely because few believe that Gadhafi can reconquer a region that long seethed under his rule, it is more sullen in Benghazi, a Mediterranean port and Libya's second-largest city.

Continued on Next Page

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# Contagious guitars



Bonhams is auctioning more than 150 lots from Clapton's personal collection, including not only the guitars he played, but also the amplifiers whose knobs he presumably touched.

(Piotr Redlinski/The New York Times)

BY JOHN TIERNEY  
© 2011 New York Times

Why would someone pay \$959,500 for a used guitar?

That was a difficult enough question in 2004 when Eric Clapton sold his beloved Fender Stratocaster named Blackie. But now, as collectors around the world prepare to bid Wednesday at another charity auction of Clapton's guitars, the questions are even tougher.

Why would someone create a replica of Blackie, complete with every single nick and scratch, including the wear pattern from Clapton's belt buckle and the burn mark from his cigarettes? And why is that replica expected to fetch at least \$20,000 at Wednesday's auction, and probably much more?

Fortunately, social scientists have been hard at work on the answers. After conducting experiments and interviewing guitar players and collectors, they have just published papers analyzing "celebrity contagion" and "imitative magic," not to mention "a dynamic cyclical model of

fetishization appropriate to an age of mass-production."

One of their conclusions is that the seemingly illogical yearning for a Clapton relic, even a pseudorelic, stems from an instinct crucial to surviving disasters like the Black Death: the belief that certain properties are contagious, either in a good or a bad way. Another conclusion is that the magical thinking chronicled in "primitive" tribes will affect bids for the Clapton guitars being auctioned at Bonhams in Midtown Manhattan. Some bidders might rationalize their purchases as good investments, or as objects that are worth having just because they provide pleasant memories and mental associations of someone they admire. But those do not seem to be the chief reasons for buying celebrity memorabilia, according to a team of psychologists at Yale.

The researchers asked people how much they would like to buy objects that had been owned by different celebrities, including popular ones like George Clooney and pariahs like Saddam Hussein. People's affection for the celebrity did not predict how much value they assigned to the memorabilia — apparently they were not buying it primarily for the pleasant associations.

Nor were they chiefly motivated by the prospect of a profit, as the researchers discovered when they tested people's eagerness to acquire a celebrity possession that could not be resold. □



# Gadhafi's 4 decades of freakish rule

Continued from Front Page

At the courthouse that has served as a government headquarters, bedlam reigned Tuesday as gusts of wind slammed doors shut and shattered a window. Nationalist music blared over hurried conversations that unfolded beneath cartoons lampooning Gadhafi.

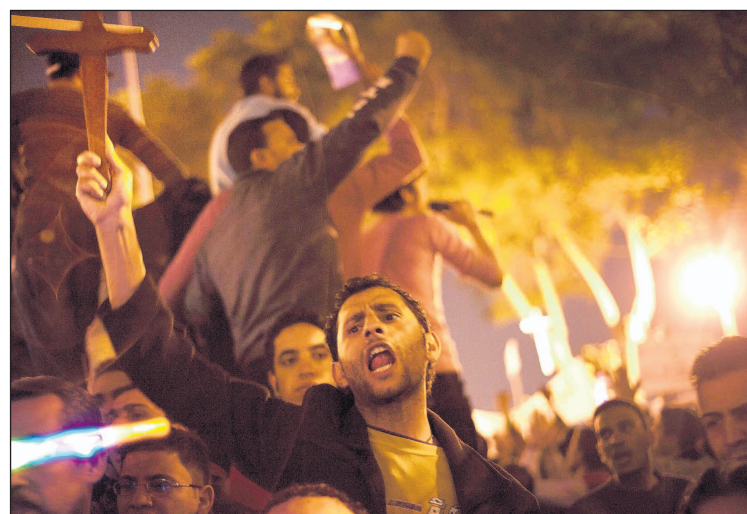
Security has begun to deteriorate, with gunfire echoing in the distance, some robberies and assailants throwing a grenade at a hotel housing foreign journalists.

At the front, three and a half hours away, rebels sought to recover from a government offensive that forced them from Bin Jawwad and sent them reeling toward Ras Lanuf, a strategic refinery town.

The government also appeared to deal setbacks to the rebels in Zawiyah, a rebel-held town near Tripoli, and Misratah, a strategic coastal city.

With momentum seeming to shift, the rebels face the prospect of being outgunned and outmanned in what increasingly looks like a mismatched civil war.

"They don't understand," said



Sami Tujan, an officer trying, unsuccessfully, to command rebels near a checkpoint. "They're a big target."

The rebels won their initial battles with an assortment of aging but effective weapons and a seemingly plentiful supply of ammunition, including some from North Korea and Russia.

On the beds of Toyota pickup trucks, many of the soldiers mounted an old Soviet heavy machine gun which they referred to by the 14.5-millimeter rounds it fires. The guns are bundled together and used as antiaircraft weapons and may have been responsible for downing a government war-

plane earlier this week near Ras Lanuf. Men holding rocket-propelled grenade launchers complete the patchwork rebel air-defense system.

At the front lines at Ras Lanuf, the opposition forces relied on more rudimentary tracking methods to spot planes: a lanky man standing on top of a large dump truck with a pair of binoculars, along with hundreds of sets of ears of eager volunteers.

Even then, the government's Soviet-made planes mostly operated with impunity. Government forces have also marshaled artillery, better tanks and helicopters that the rebels cannot match. □

# Museums vie for used shuttles

By KENNETH CHANG  
© 2011 New York Times

Condition: 27 years old, 150 million miles traveled, somewhat dinged but well maintained.

Price: \$0.

Dealer preparation and destination charges: \$28.8 million. So, does anyone want to buy a used space shuttle?

Yes, it turns out. This old vehicle — the space shuttle Discovery — is an object of fervent desire for museums around the country, which would love to add it or one of its mates, the Endeavour and the Atlantis, to their collections. (Financing terms can be arranged with NASA.)

The Discovery is to return from orbit Wednesday, concluding its 39th flight and its space-faring career, but it will make at least one more ascent — piggyback on a 747 airplane — to its resting place for public display. NASA will announce



the final destinations for the three soon-to-be-retired shuttles April 12, the 30th anniversary of the first space shuttle launching.

Some of the competing institutions have been campaigning energetically.

The visitor center at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston hired a marketing firm and set up a website,

bringtheshuttlehome.com. The Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum in Manhattan has collected more than 150,000 names on a petition urging that one of the shuttles be placed there. And the Museum of Flight in Seattle this week erected the first wall of a new \$12 million wing to house the shuttle it may never get. □



## Colo. woman admits aiding terrorist cell



Jamie Paulin-Ramirez

By MARYCLAIRE DALE  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A Colorado woman has admitted she conspired to help a terrorist cell that sought to train with al-Qaida-linked group and incite an Islamic holy war.

U.S. prosecutors say 32-year-old Jamie Paulin-Ramirez of Leadville, Colo., conspired with others to get military training in South Asia and moved to Ireland in 2009 to join the group.

Court papers released show the Algerian man she married there sought to recruit “brothers & sisters” to train with the group known as al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb.

Paulin-Ramirez faces up to 15 years in prison after her guilty plea to conspiring to aid foreign terrorists.

Federal prosecutors say she joined forces with Colleen

LaRose of Pennsylvania, who dubbed herself “Jihad Jane” online.

Defense lawyer Jeremy Ibrahim says Paulin-Ramirez got caught up in something larger than she knew.

Paulin-Ramirez arrived in Ireland on Sept. 11, 2009, and married an Algerian terrorism suspect the same day.

Defense lawyer Jeremy Ibrahim called her a sincere religious convert who married “for the love of Islam, not for the love of her husband.”

Paulin-Ramirez voluntarily returned to the U.S. after she, her husband and others were detained in Ireland in March 2010 as part of a global terror plot.

LaRose, 47, of Pennsburg, had spent years caring for her boyfriend’s father in Pennsylvania while building a double life online as “Jihad Jane.” □

*1 million fish dead in So. Cal*

## Mass fish death fouls marina

By ROBERT JABLON

Associated Press

REDONDO BEACH, Calif.

— An estimated 1 million fish turned up dead in a Southern California marina, creating a floating feast for pelicans, gulls and other sea life and a stinky mess for harbor authorities.

Boaters awakened to find a carpet of small silvery fish surrounding their vessels, said Staci Gabrielli, marine coordinator for King Harbor Marina on the Los Angeles County coast. Authorities said there was also a 12- to 18-inch layer of dead fish on the bottom of the marina.

California Fish and Game officials said the fish were sardines that apparently depleted the water of oxygen and suffocated.

The die-off was unusual but not unprecedented, he said. Nonetheless, the scale was impressive to locals at King Harbor, which shelters about 1,400 boats on south Santa Monica Bay.

Hughan said water samples showed no oils or chemicals that could have contributed to the deaths. He said some of the fish were being shipped to a Fish and Game laboratory for study but the cause was likely to be uncomplicated.

The fish appeared to have come into the marina dur-



Redondo Beach city workers

ing the night and probably couldn’t find their way out, he said. Hughan said there was no safety issue at all but “it’s going to smell bad for quite a

while.”

Fire Department, Harbor Patrol and other city workers set to work scooping up fish in nets and buckets. □

*In New Orleans*

## Good times roll for Mardi Gras

NEW ORLEANS — It is hard to keep New Orleans, America’s party city, down.

Judging by the frenzy of flamboyant costumes, the dancing and drinking in the city was doing its best to forget the twin disasters of Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill that brought it to its knees.

Hotels were near capacity again, the planes were full and the French Quarter was buzzing. Not quite a year has passed since an explosion on a BP oil platform created a huge oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The April 2010 spill hit the city’s tourism and seafood industries as it was rebounding from Hurricane Katrina five years earlier.

But in New Orleans, locals are expert at letting the good times roll in the days leading up to Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the

Lenten season.

Kevin Kelly’s Carnival party is among the hottest tickets in town and couples in elaborate costumes lined up on St. Charles Avenue to get in.

Kelly owns a huge expanse of warehouse space that serves New Orleans’ coffee and metals trades, and a sprawling upriver tourist attraction called Houmas House Plantation and Gardens.

Dressed as the legendary pirate Jean Lafitte, Kelly held court in his ultra-stylish home on the avenue where champagne flowed as guests roamed the house and passersby peered in at the costumed guests through floor-to-ceiling windows.

Kelly bought the building on the parade route 15 years ago. After five years of renovations

# Special Of the Month!

<p><b>Appetizer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fish Soup</li> <li>• Onion Soup</li> <li>• Conch Fritters</li> <li>• Escargot</li> <li>• Salad</li> </ul>	<p><b>Entrée</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fresh Catch of the Day</b> prepared by our local chef just the way you like it.</li> <li>• <b>Jumbo Shrimp</b> from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine.</li> <li>• <b>Filet Mignon*</b> 8 oz. US Tenderloin</li> <li>• <b>Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Dessert</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chocolate or Banana Cake</li> <li>• Ice Cream</li> <li>• Coffee / Tea</li> </ul>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>3-course dinner <b>\$24.95</b> per person</p> </div> <p><small>This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.</small></p> <p><small>* A surcharge of \$2 will be added.</small></p>

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## Missing Mexico police chief in United States



Police Chief Marisol Valles

EL PASO, Texas – A 20-year-old woman police chief fired after abandoning her post in one of Mexico's most dangerous drug war towns is in the United States, authorities said.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency confirmed that Marisol Valles, the former police chief of Praxedis G. Guerrero near Mexico's violent city of Ciudad Juarez, is in the United States pending a hearing before a U.S. federal immigration judge.

"Valles-Garcia is in the United States and she will have the opportunity to present the facts of her case before an impartial immigration judge," said an ICE official, who cannot be named as he was commenting on background.

The El Paso Times newspaper reported Valles had been taken to a detention center in the Texas border city. Reuters was unable to confirm the report.

Valles was fired on Monday by the town's mayor for not showing up to work after Mexican media reported she had received death threats.

Her absence prompted media speculation she had sought asylum over the border in the United States.

The ICE official declined to give further details on her case, "absent a signed privacy waiver." □

*"Robo-calls" in Massachusetts*

## Tardy students get rude awakening sunrise calls

CONWAY, Massachusetts – Chronically tardy and truant high school students in Fall River, Massachusetts may think they're having a nightmare when they are aroused at sunrise on Wednesday by their principal's voice.

"It's 6:15 and it's Durfee High School calling," booms the voice of Principal Paul Marshall of B.M.C. Durfee High School in a pre-recorded call set to ring through to about 500 of the school's 2,400 students, Vice Principal Ross Thibault said.

The so-called "robo-calls" are aimed at rousting the worst-offending sleepyheads from bed and getting them to school on time.

Robo-calls are typically used to notify parents of weather-related school delays and cancellations.

Durfee joins the ranks of U.S. schools taking on the added role of alarm clock to combat high rates of tardiness and absenteeism, including New Bedford, Massachusetts and Chicago, Thibault said. In New York City, the wake-up calls feature the voice of former professional basketball



B.M.C. Durfee High School

star Magic Johnson.

At Durfee, 20 percent of the student body will be getting routine phone calls at home at 6:15 a.m. starting on Wednesday.

The school day's first class begins at 7:45 a.m.

Administrators there hope the

effort will boost attendance from 88 percent now to at least 95 percent.

"The wakeup message is followed by Principal Marshall explaining that a student has been excessively late or absent, and a request to get to school on time." □

*Idaho approves*

## Law to limit teachers' union power



Governor Butch Otter

SALMON, Idaho – A bill to strip Idaho's public school teachers of much of their collective bargaining rights won final passage in the state Legislature and was awaiting the governor's signature to become law.

The measure, which cleared the Republican-controlled House on a vote of 48-22, would restrict collective bargaining for the state's 12,000 unionized teachers to salaries and benefits only, removing from labor negotiations such issues as class size and teacher workloads.

The legislation, which supporters have said is neces-

sary to help rein in education spending, also would eliminate teacher tenure, limit the duration of teachers' labor contracts to one year and remove seniority as a factor in determining the order of any teacher layoffs.

Moreover, it would bar collective bargaining by a teachers' union altogether unless the union local could prove that it represented more than 50 percent of the teachers in that school district.

Crafted by Idaho's elected schools chief and backed by Republicans such as Governor Butch Otter and legislative leaders, the bill has sparked demonstrations by thousands across a state where public protests are relatively uncommon.

The outcry comes as efforts are under way by Republican leaders in Wisconsin and other states to curb unions representing teachers and other public employees.

The measure won approval last month in the Senate, also dominated by Republicans. □

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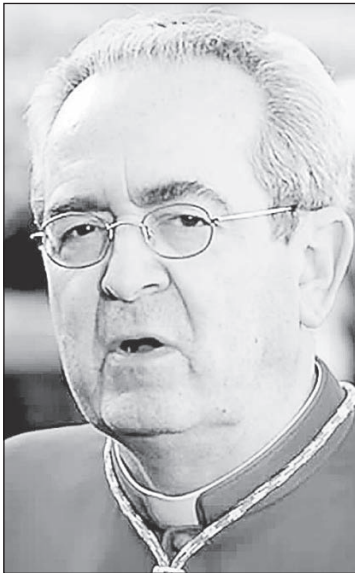


In Philadelphia

# Priests named in sex reports suspended

By JOANN LOVIGLIO  
Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA** — The Philadelphia archdiocese suspended 21 Roman Catholic priests who were named as child molestation suspects in a scathing grand jury report released last month. The priests have been removed from ministry while their cases are reviewed, Cardinal Justin Rigali said. The names of the priests were not being released, a spokesman for the archdiocese said. "These have been difficult weeks since the release of the grand jury report," Rigali said in a statement. "Difficult most of all for victims of sexual abuse but also for all Catholics and for everyone in our community." The two-year grand jury in-



Cardinal Justin Rigali

vestigation into priest abuse in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia resulted in charges against two priests, a former priest and a Catholic school teacher who are accused of raping young boys. □

In California

# Angry residents vote on recall



Lorenzo Velez

By JOHN ROGERS  
Associated Press

**BELL, Calif.** — Voters went to the polls with a chance to elect a group of reformers in a blue-collar Southern California community that became the face of municipal corruption in the country when officials were accused of paying themselves six-figure salaries while the city was going

broke. A steady stream of voters lined up at four polling places in Bell to cast ballots for candidates for all five seats on the City Council. Four council members were targeted for recall, although one has resigned and two others aren't seeking re-election. All four have pleaded not guilty to dozens of fraud and other charges accusing city officials of looting the city of more than \$5.5 million. Authorities say they drove Bell into as much as \$4.5 million in debt in the process. Lorenzo Velez, the only member of the current council who was not charged, is seeking re-election. He was paid just \$7,500 a year for his part-time service. □

On spending

# Freshman Democrat upbraids Obama

By ANDREW TAYLOR  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — A freshman Democratic senator accused President Barack Obama of failing to provide leadership on a worsening national deficit as top Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill spent more time pointing fingers than seeking common ground on a must-do measure to fund the government for the next six months.

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W. Va., called on Obama to lead "tough negotiations" on wrapping up last year's unfinished budget work and said that "right now, that is not happening."

White House press secretary Jay Carney countered by saying that Obama's "leadership and seriousness about the need to live within our means, cut spending where we can is quite clear."

At the Capitol, the top Democratic leader continued his assault on the House-passed spending measure, which contains bruising cuts to many domestic programs. A vote looms on the GOP-drafted legislation, as well as a Democratic alternative, in the Senate later this week. Republicans say the Democratic plan, which would cut domestic agency operating budgets by about 3 percent relative to last year, doesn't go nearly far enough as the GOP plan, which cuts agencies by



Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W

about 13 percent on average cuts that would feel twice as deep because they would be implemented over the second half of the budget year ending Sept. 30.

Looming in the Senate Wednesday afternoon are test votes on the House GOP plan and the milder alternative from Senate Democrats, designed to prod the Obama administration, Republicans dominating the House and the Democratic-led Senate to settle gaping differences.

Democrats say the votes in the Senate would demonstrate to tea party-backed House GOP freshmen that their bill is a dead issue in the Senate and that they need to move closer to their demands for smaller budget cuts.

Neither measure can muster the 60 votes required under

Senate procedures to advance; not a single Democrat is likely to vote for the GOP measure, and some may shy away from the Democratic bill as well. That could put pressure on House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, as well as other congressional leaders of both parties to find a compromise.

At the same time, the vote on the Senate Democratic alternative offering up another \$5 billion in spending cuts is unlikely to get unanimous support from Democrats, especially moderates like Manchin up for re-election in 2012. One such Democrat, Claire McCaskill of Missouri, said the Democratic measure "doesn't go far enough," but she hadn't decided whether to support it. Manchin agreed and said the "kubuki theater" was a foolish waste of time. □

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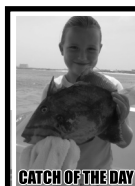
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Census shows the symbol of America change

## US 'heartland' makes historic shift from Midwest

By HOPE YEN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America's population center is edging away from the Midwest, pulled by Hispanic growth in the Southwest, according to census figures. The historic shift is changing the nation's politics and even the traditional notion of the country's heartland long the symbol of mainstream American beliefs and culture.

The West is now home to the four fastest-growing states Nevada, Arizona, Utah and Idaho and has surpassed the Midwest in population, according to 2010 figures. California and Texas added to the southwestern population tilt,

making up more than one-fourth of the nation's total gains since 2000.

When the Census Bureau announces a new mean center of population next month, geographers believe it will be placed in or around Texas County, Mo., southwest of the present location in Phelps County, Mo. That would put it on a path to leave the region by midcentury.

The last time the U.S. center fell outside the Midwest was 1850, in the eastern territory now known as West Virginia. Its later move to the Midwest bolstered the region as the nation's cultural heartland in the 20th century, central to U.S. farming and Rust Belt manu-



The historic shift is changing the nation's politics and even the traditional notion of the country's heartland long the symbol of mainstream American beliefs and culture

facturing sites.

In the 1960s, "Will it play in Peoria?" was a common phrase that coincided with the U.S. center's location in Illinois. It was a measure of

whether a politician or consumer product could appeal to mainstream Americans with traits associated with Midwesterners, such as stability and caution. But over the last

decade, the Phoenix suburb of Peoria, Ariz., soared past its namesake Peoria, Ill., in population size. Democrat Barack Obama in 2008 successfully made the Republican-leaning Mountain West a key component to winning elections, with Colorado, Nevada and New Mexico now considered swing states.

With Arizona on track to surpass Ohio in electoral votes by midcentury, based on projected growth, issues important to the West, such as Arizona's sharp debate over immigration, gain in political significance. The Census Bureau calculates the mean U.S. center every 10 years based on its national head count. □

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'Bigfoot' suit:

## NH is stomping on civil liberties



Bigfoot

 By LYNNE TUOHY  
Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. — First there was a Bigfoot sighting. Now, there's a Bigfoot suing.

A performance artist and amateur filmmaker who dressed as the mythical beast says New Hampshire park rangers didn't have the right to kick him off a mountain where he had been

scaring, or at least amusing, hikers while friends videotaped his antics.

Backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, Jonathan Doyle is suing the state, arguing that the requirement to pay \$100 for a special use permit 30 days in advance and get a \$2 million insurance bond violates his free speech rights.

Doyle's attorneys say no one complained to the state park service after Doyle first dressed as Bigfoot, ran around the rocky top of Mount Monadnock, returned to human form and interviewed bystanders about what they saw Sept. 6, 2009. Hikers describing their encounters in a video Doyle posted on YouTube seemed happy to get in on the fun and inflate the legend. A boy who looked to be about 10 said he even took a photo of

the legendary monster, which is more strongly associated with the Pacific Northwest than New Hampshire. "Yeah. I'm gonna put it on eBay, sell it for like \$50," he said.

When Doyle let it get out that he planned to return Sept. 19 to film a sequel, Monadnock park manager Patrick Hummel noticed. The subject line in an e-mail he wrote to his supervisor: "Bigfoot problem on Monadnock...not kidding." Hummel said in the e-mail he planned to intercept Doyle and added, "If you want to waste 5 minutes of your time, he's on YouTube." So when Doyle returned with a small band of costumed friends to film "The Capture of Bigfoot," they were captured themselves, sort of. Hummel interrupted the skit and barred them from filming, saying Doyle needed a permit. □



# LOCAL Aruba TODAY

## Surfi needs friends



**ORANJESTAD** - We would like to introduce Surfi to you, one of the donkeys living at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. She has been living there for quite a long time already: she was one of the first ten donkeys that found a home with us. The volunteers guess that Surfi is about fifteen to twenty years old, so she is in the prime of her life. Guessing the age of a donkey is done by looking at their coat, teeth and hooves. Surfi is the mother of three kids: Tutu, Roulette and Thunder. She does not easily get frazzled and she completely puts her trust in our volunteers. This has resulted in Thunder, her new-born, being spoiled: he loves to be cuddled. Together with her offspring she loves life at the sanctuary: she is enjoying every day to the hilt.

Surfi has a chip, just like the other donkeys. This way she can be recognized and all her medical information is on it. All the donkeys at the sanctuary are well-cared for: they get their food and drink and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers. The volunteers try to cover the cost through organizing all kinds of activities and by selling nice souvenirs in the store. □

## Aruba's 57<sup>th</sup> Carnival comes to close



**ORANJESTAD** – The Closing Jump-Up last night was the last chance to hear live performances of this year's

Carnival tunes. The various bands put their all into the performances and tomorrow they will start thinking about next year.

The old tradition of the burning of King Momo took place last night concluding the 2011 Carnival season.

This tradition is not unique to the island, but takes place on other Caribbean islands and in Latin America. King Momo is considered the king of Carnival and signifies the beginning and the end of the Carnival period. Legend has it that King Momo takes the sins committed during Carnival with him, leaving the island



uncontaminated, so the burning of King Momo symbolizes

forgiven sins and signifies the true closing of Carnival. □

## Adrie celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> at Suikertuin

**ORANJESTAD** - Adrie Mostert has been coming to Aruba for the past 15 years, and this year he celebrated his 50th birthday (Abraham in Dutch) at the Suikertuin with family and friends. This is where his favorite sandwich "Tartaar" was served. Mirjam, Adrie's love of his life, was the motor behind all the surprises, his daughter Tess and son Boyd and closest friends were flying in from Holland to be present on this big day. They finalized a great day with a sunset sailing trip with a great 12 course dinner.

Aruba has been there second home for many years and congratulation from all your friends on Aruba. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro





## 1st national 10-day sales event Coldwell Banker Aruba report amazing response

**ORANJESTAD** - Coldwell Banker, the world's oldest residential real-estate brand, and Aruba home sellers recently teamed up for the first national 10-day sales event, offering significant discounts on listing prices, some of up to 10%. The sales event, which featured homes, commercial properties and land, was a bold initiative to bring home buyers and sellers together and help jump-start the real-estate market on Aruba, Coldwell Banker Aruba representatives explain. The event which ended on Friday had been well received, having evoked good response from clients and potential clients, resulting in a steady flow of house viewings, happy home sellers and an increased number in hits on the website [www.coldwellbanker.aw](http://www.coldwellbanker.aw).

Coldwell Banker sales associates noticed some of the people who reacted on the sale had been interested in certain properties for some time, but the special, discounted price was what moved them to react and request an appointment. There were clients who decided looking into properties that they previously did not think they would like and others who found the house of their dreams just because of a better, discounted listing price, they add.

The decision to host such an event was taken after Coldwell Banker sales associates had been consulted and collectively expressed they were certain that a modest reduction in listing prices would help bring more home buyers and sellers together. □

## Purgatory wins Plaza Quiz Night!

**ORANJESTAD** - The team Purgatory has won the eight-week Plaza Quiz Night Series with verve! The group dominated the series and impressed all its competitors with its wide knowledge in various fields. Teams Synergy and Eureka came in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively. The Purgatory team won bottles of Bear Hug rum and Jagermeister herbal liqueur, courtesy of sponsor Pepia Est, for its efforts. These efforts entailed weekly sessions of very hard questions indeed. Nicknamed Academics Anonymous by quiz master Evert Bongers, the team's victory did not come as a great surprise: the team almost always came up top. Purgatory's biggest competitor Bier Hier was absent during several game nights, hereby losing their chance for winning the series. Winners of the eighth and last quiz night of the series was the team of the Power ladies, who, after years of compet-



ing, proved good enough to take home the day prize, two bottles of wine.

Anyone who would like to test his or her knowledge during the next Quiz Night Series is invited: it starts on Tuesday, March 15 at 8 pm. Make a team of 5 persons max, pay AWG. 5,-- per person and have fun. The prizes for the top three teams were sponsored by Tropical Bottling Company and Pepia Est. The final standings of Café

the Plaza's Quiz Night Series were:

1. Purgatory 25 pts
2. Synergy 22 pts
3. Eureka 20 pts
4. Nul 30 15 pts
5. Bier Hier 13 pts



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# Top of the class for 2010 honored at Westin



**PALM BEACH** -Last week, the Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba held its annual Year-end Awards honoring the shining stars of 2010 in four categories:

Manager of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, and Associate of the Year from the Front of the House and the Heart of the House. The event, held in the Grande Caribbean Ballroom, had a Carnival theme, with

many associates and management coming dressed in their Carnival finery.

The nominees were all previous monthly winners in their respective categories during the 2010 year, and won for exemplifying Westin's core values, including providing personal touches and personalized services to 'surprise and delight' every guest, proactively anticipating guests'



needs and making them feel special, and recognizing the special touches offered by Westin to help guests restore the body, expand the mind, and elevate the spirit so they leave not only rested, but also renewed and enriched.

The ultimate winners were as follows: Manager of the Year-Tercisio (Chido) Geerman; Supervisor of the Year-Vernel Atijera; Associate of the Year (Front of House)-Rudy Magayam; and Associate of the Year (Heart of House)-Zoraida Lispier.

Pictured here are the winners with General Manager Richard Roy, as well as associates and management having fun with the event's Carnival theme. □





# Connectican couples enjoy Aruban hospitality



PALM BEACH - Scott & Joanne Luginbuhl and Ronnie and Sheila Gerber are enjoying a Aruba vacation. Hailing from Connecticut, the two couples are staying at the Marriott Surf Club for a week. They will finish the trip with a 1 night stay at Club Arias in Saveneta. They are here with Kent Gerber who has been on the Island 23 times and loves to take people snorkeling. The Luginbuhls are here for their 25th wedding anniversary and Ronnie is ready for the BIG 50th Birthday!

Scott and Joanne have been to Aruba one other time and this is the first time for Ronnie and his wife.

They left their children back home but hopefully they will return back some day and bring the kids along. Scott and Ronnie are brother-in-laws so they are really enjoying some family time here in Aruba. □



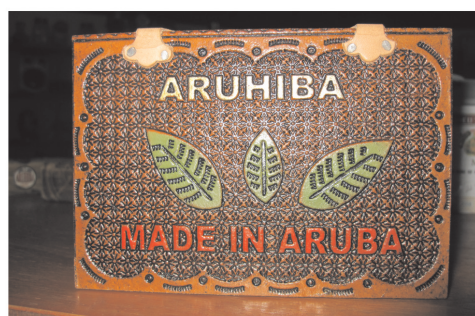
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift



box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till 8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade. For tour to the tabaco factory call: 586-0347



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Spanish police cordon off area where San Diego State University student's body was found after he'd been missing for 10 days.

### In Madrid

## Missing US student found dead in river

By DANIEL WOOLLS

Associated Press

MADRID – The body of a U.S. exchange student from California was pulled out of a Madrid river 10 days after he disappeared following a night on the town, a police official said.

The cause of death was not known but there were no immediate signs of foul play in the death of 22-year-old San Diego State University business student Austin Bice, the National Police official said.

An autopsy will be carried out Wednesday. It is not clear when the results will be released but the information will be given to Bice's family and to a Spanish investigating magistrate, the Madrid government said.

Bice's body was found in the Manzanares River, a shallow, slow-moving waterway that runs through western Madrid, in a spot not far from the nightclub where he was last seen in the early hours of Feb. 26, said the police official.

She spoke on condition of anonymity in line with department rules.

Bice, from Carlsbad, Calif., was studying international business at Carlos III University and had been in Spain since January. Roommates had reported him missing after he failed to return home following the night out. His father Larry Bice had traveled to Madrid to help in the search. □

### In Egyptian capital

## Christians and Muslims clash

By HADEEL AL-SHALCHI,

Associated Press

CAIRO – Clashes between Christians and Muslims escalated on Tuesday with thousands of people burning tires, smashing parked cars and cutting off a main road despite military moves to control a day of violent protests in Egypt's capital.

Tensions have been simmering between Egypt's minority Christian community and its Muslim majority after a Muslim mob burned a church in a Cairo suburb. Egypt's military rulers have since pledged to rebuild the church and Prime Minister Essam



Egyptian protesters shout slogans

Sharaf met Monday with the protesters outside the state-television building.

On Tuesday, thousands of Christians demonstrated in locations around the city,

saying they were being persecuted. But several of the gatherings descended into violence when the two sides confronted each other in the streets. □

### Australian Boy fights back

## 'Illiterate' Australian boy sues state

SYDNEY – A 15-year-old Australian boy is suing the government of an Australian state after allegedly being left illiterate and innumerate despite being taught at a state-run school, officials have confirmed.

The Victoria state education department said it was defending the claim made by a Year 10 boy from Melbourne, who cannot be named for legal reasons, after details of the case were reported by the ABC, Australia's public broadcaster.

Lawyers for the student reportedly told the Federal Court that their client's future was "questionable" and "seriously disadvantaged" after he "missed out on the requirements of an education" at his school in Melbourne.

They said the state government promises a "world class" education for students, but the

boy who is also suing for future loss of earnings had been severely bullied at school and left illiterate and innumerate.

The Melbourne court heard the boy had the literacy of a six-year-old when he was accepted into Year 7, the first year of high school, in 2008.

Although the boy suffers from a severe language disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anxiety and a general learning disorder, he is too intelligent to attend a special needs school, the court also heard.

"The Department is defending the claim," a spokesman for the Victorian Department of Education told AFP. "It would be inappropriate to comment further as the matter is before the courts." □

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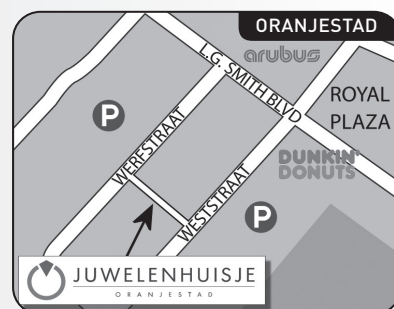
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## GOP trying to stop college students from voting?

New York— New Hampshire's new Republican speaker wants to discourage "foolish" liberal college students who just "vote their feelings" from casting ballots in his state and he's not alone. The voting habits of college students are "foolish," New Hampshire House Speaker Bill O'Brien (R) recently told a gathering of Tea Party supporters. They vote liberal because "they don't have life experience and they just vote their feelings." A pair of bills in the GOP-controlled state legislature would prevent many of those students from voting in their college town, or at all, The Washington Post reports. And New Hampshire isn't alone.

Many other states are also considering ways to make voting harder. Is this really fair? The GOP's war on students is anti-democratic: It might seem merely "ridiculous" for "Republicans to try to stop those who 'vote their feelings'" from casting ballots, says Steve Benen in Washington Monthly. But this naked attempt to "stack the voting deck" in their favor is also a "dangerous" assault on democracy. "If the GOP is so panicky about losing elections, they should field better candidates and adopt a more sensible policy agenda," not plot to disenfranchise college students.

This is about voter fraud, not disenfranchisement: The Washington Post report is heavily "skewed toward the Democratic complaint" about a GOP "power play," says Ken Shepherd in NewsBusters. Tellingly, it isn't until "the very end of the article" that we even hear the Republicans' reasonable rationale for their efforts: If laws aren't tightened, college students can easily try to vote in their home state and in the New Hampshire district where they attend school.

Targeting students is nothing new: The "arguments against student voting" have been around for decades, says Susan Milligan in U.S. News & World Report. And they're still bunk. If students spend at least three-quarters of the year living, often working, and even paying taxes in their college town, they deserve the right to vote there. And that "lack of life experience" complaint? Funny you don't hear it when the GOP wants to send 18-year-olds off to war. □

*Gitmo trials resume:*

## Is Obama admitting he was wrong?

New York — The president lifts a two-year freeze on military trials for terror suspects detained at Guantanamo Bay, with a few tweaks to the Bush system he's long criticized. In a stark reversal, President Obama on Monday ended a two-year freeze on military trials for terror suspects held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and established a system for holding dangerous detainees there indefinitely, without charges. Administration officials say the president remains committed to closing the military prison, but critics say he's just perpetuating the policies of his predecessor.

Is Obama essentially conceding that George W. Bush was right?

Yes, Obama's hypocrisy is shocking: "This isn't a flip flop; it's a lie," says Rick Moran at American Thinker. The administration insists Obama has changed Bush's policy, but he's basically restarting the same military tribunals he vilified Bush for during the 2008 campaign. Smell that? It's the "nauseating stench of hypocrisy."

Obama has not changed his mind: This is "embarrassing" for Obama, says Frank James at NPR, but it probably "won't



President Obama

hurt him politically." He remains committed to closing Guantanamo, but Congress is blocking him. In the meantime, at least he's adding procedures "to bring the detentions closer to the norms of U.S. constitutional values and the Geneva Conventions."

Whatever the reason, this makes a mockery of justice: Obama is trying to soothe his disappointed supporters, says Amy Davidson at The New Yorker, by setting up some "court-like trappings" for prisoners held "indefinitely without charges." But he's still sidestepping "the rule of law." Maybe he's doing it less

brazenly than Bush but that doesn't exactly "count as a moral stand."

Obama is finally accepting reality: The 172 detainees at Guantanamo aren't pick-pockets they're "accused war criminals," says the New York Daily News. It would be "costly, dangerous and politically untenable" to insist on trying people like the confessed "9/11 mastermind" Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in civilian courts.

Obama is now giving them access to a "fair and constitutional justice system." This just proves "it is never too late to do the right thing." □

## Are brothels and bikinis signs of progress for Arab women?

Amherst, Mass. — Western media have too often measured emerging democracies by the yardstick of "sex, drugs, and rock and roll." A recent article in The New York Times, "Next Question for Tunisia: The Role of Islam in Politics," appears to offer the additional standards of "brothels," "beer," and "bikinis."

The article recounts how a few weeks ago in Tunisia, "military helicopters and security forces were called in to carry out an unusual mission: protecting the city's brothels from a mob of zealots." The set-up and analysis that ensues seems to suggest that democratic aspirations are preserved in Tunisia's recent safeguarding of these state-sanctioned brothels. The article goes

on to highlight the fears that growing Islamist influence in Tunisia will threaten women's rights. But the real question is this: Were Tunisian forces in this case protecting women from Islamic extremists, or were they protecting the rights of brothel owners and users to sell and buy women?

It took the Islamists to signal "No to brothels in a Muslim country!" Hopefully, it will not be one of the first victories of Middle Eastern democratic movements that brothels in Tunisia are being secured at the same time that activists are challenging so much else that is regressive. No woman should have to earn her living servicing 5 to 15 men a day on average in what amounts to sexual slavery. Such numb-

ing mantras that "prostitution is inevitable" have become mindless excuses for rationalizing systems of prostitution in democratic and non-democratic countries alike.

Dangers of secular and religious fundamentalists—Islamists don't own the protest against brothels. The media portrayal of resistance to brothels as solely the provenance of religiously conservative and intolerant zealots not only omits but also distorts the democratic movement of feminists in Muslim countries. Muslim feminists work to gain rights that truly protect women and offer them a better future, including the freedom from sexual exploitation. The framework of The New York Times article reinforces

a traditional male conceit of Western liberalism sexual exploitation portrayed as sexual liberation.

Women's rights advocates in Tunisia, Egypt, and other protesting countries in the Middle East are not demanding the right to be prostituted. Many have seen firsthand how their sisters in Iraq have been made victims of sexual exploitation by the helping hands of a war that was waged, among other reasons, in the name of democracy and to free women from tyranny. One woman who risked her life to combat the introduction of Islamic law into Kurdistan stated: "If before there was one dictator persecuting people, now almost everyone is persecuting women." Likewise, women in



Janice G. Raymond

the emerging indigenous democratic movements in Muslim countries have well-founded fears that the rights they do possess will be the first to disappear in the destabilization and disarray of post-autocratic societies. □





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## US VP Biden in Moscow for 2 days of meetings

By JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

**MOSCOW** – U.S. Vice President Joe Biden arrived in Moscow, the centerpiece stop on a three-nation swing through Europe. Biden two years ago introduced the phrase “push the reset button” to characterize the Obama administration’s efforts to improve relations with Russia. The White House says his two days of meetings in Moscow are aimed both at assessing where relations stand midway through President Obama’s term and to try for progress on an array of complicated issues. Top issues on the agenda include

the contentious issue of European missile defense and efforts to bring Russia into the World Trade Organization. He will meet with President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. Russia has sought WTO membership, with varying levels of enthusiasm, for the past decade and a half. Although the country wants to improve its prospects for international trade, it has been leery of dropping some protectionist tariffs. The United States has supported WTO membership for Russia, believing that developing the country’s economy will lead to more stability. □

*In corruption case*

## Chirac skirts trial again

By JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

**PARIS** – Years in the making, Jacques Chirac’s day in court will have to wait a bit longer. A Paris court suspended for months a corruption trial in which the 78-year-old former French president is the star defendant so that France’s high court can examine a last-ditch appeal by another defendant.

The ruling quickly sparked a guessing game about when if ever the consummate political survivor will face the gavel over the only two scandals to go to trial among the many that dogged Chirac during his 45-year political career. Both



Former French President Jacques Chirac

to 1995, before he became president. He enjoyed immunity from prosecution during his subsequent 12 years as head of state.

The two different investigations were combined into one trial, both focusing on claims that Chirac and his allies misappropriated city money for jobs benefiting his conservative political party. Chirac has repeatedly denied wrongdoing. A lawyer for one of Chirac’s co-defendants his former chief-of-staff Remy Chardon argued that one complaint was filed too long ago to merit a trial today, and the combination of the two cases wasn’t constitutional. □

the legal and political calendars could further delay any resumption.

The trial, which opened Monday, centers on Chirac’s time as mayor of Paris from 1977

*Former Bosnian General Divjak*

## Retired army general free on bail

By VERONIKA OLEKSYN

Associated Press

**VIENNA** – An Austrian court ordered the release of a former Bosnian army general whom Serbia accuses of war crimes, while extradition proceedings continue.

Jovan Divjak, who defected from the former Yugoslav army to the mostly Muslim Bosniak forces at the start of Bosnia’s 1992-1995 war, was taken into Austrian custody on Thursday at the request of Serbia. The case has sparked protests and diplomatic strain. While Divjak is considered a hero in Bosnia, Serbia alleges that his role in an attack that killed dozens of predominantly Serb Yugoslav soldiers withdrawing from the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo constitutes a war crime. The U.N. war crimes tribunal has ruled that no war crime was committed then but Serbia has still



Bosnian people display Bosnian war time flag

issued international warrants against 19 people.

Divjak was freed after the court in the town of Korneuburg received a 500,000 euro bail sum, said Christa Zemanek, a spokeswoman for the court. He is not allowed to leave Austria as extradition proceedings continue, she said.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Sven Alkalaj, who has been in Vienna since Monday, wel-

comed Divjak’s release.

Earlier in the day, Alkalaj said Serbia’s allegations were politically motivated.

There was no immediate comment from officials in Serbia. Milovan Bozinovic, Serbia’s ambassador to Austria, said in comments quoted by the Austria Press Agency that his country wanted to “avoid a further politicization of the case” and would strictly adhere to the legal framework. □

### 3 Course Special Menu

#### APPETIZERS

- Seafood Cocktail
- Escargots Florentine
- Beef Carpaccio
- Soup of the day

#### ENTREES

- Jerked Twin Skirt Medallion
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- Broiled Pork Chops
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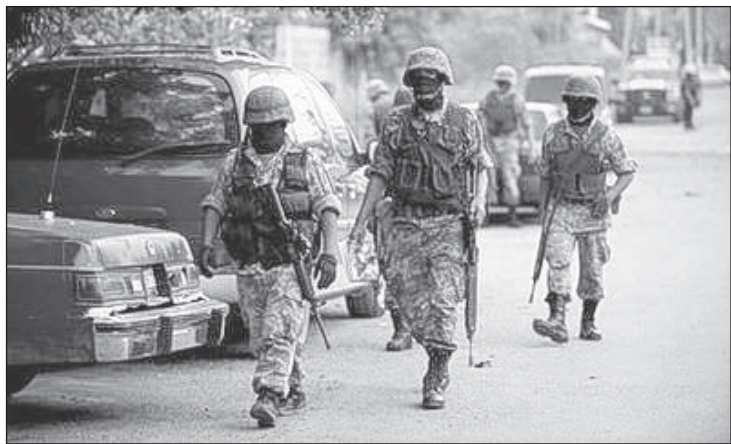
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*In northeastern Mexico*

# 18 killed in gang gun battles



**Mexican masked soldiers on patrol**

By **RICARDO GONZALEZ**  
Associated Press

CULIACAN, Mexico – Gun battles between rival gangs killed 18 people in a north-eastern Mexican town Monday, a day after seven police officers and an inmate died in an ambush of a convoy transporting prisoners in western Mexico.

The fighting in the town of Abasolo erupted Monday morning and left at least 18 people dead, the Tamaulipas state government said in a three-sentence statement that offered no details. It said state and federal security forces

had arrived in the town to restore order and investigate.

The shooting came a month after shootings in the nearby town of Padilla also killed 18 people, several of them innocent bystanders.

Tamaulipas has been wracked by a turf war between the Zetas and Gulf cartels, and information on violence in some of the smaller towns is notoriously scarce. Often official confirmation does not come for hours or days, leaving residents to cower in their homes and communicate through social media.

Tamaulipas residents sent

Twitter messages about Monday's shootings hours before the government confirmed the bloodshed.

Some tweets warned people to stay indoors and others demanded official information. Under constant threat from drug gangs, the local news media in Tamaulipas often ignore drug-gang violence completely.

In northwestern Sinaloa state, meanwhile, gunmen swarmed a convoy transporting two prisoners, shredding three police vehicles with bullets and killing seven officers and one inmate, Sinaloa state Attorney General Marco Antonio Higuera said Monday. Six officers and the second inmate were wounded.

Attackers traveling in about 20 vehicles caught the police convoy in crossfire Sunday near the city of Guasave, Higuera said.

"The patrol vehicles were destroyed. It was practically a massacre," he said. "Initial reports indicate there were 1,200 shell casings at the scene." The three state police patrol vehicles were traveling to the state capital of Culiacan when they came under fire from attackers who apparently lay in wait on a highway. □

## Gates sees Afghan progress, warning of "acid test" ahead



**US Defense Secretary Robert Gates**

SANGIN, Afghanistan – US Defense Secretary Robert Gates touted progress on a visit to southern Afghanistan but said NATO forces will soon face an "acid test" as Taliban insurgents move to seize back ground.

In a tour of volatile battlegrounds, Gates said he came away encouraged that coalition and Afghan forces were rolling back the Taliban from longstanding strongholds in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. But he said results of the NATO-led campaign would not be clear for a few more months, when the Taliban is expected to exploit warmer weather to strike back.

Gates's visit comes before foreign troops are due to start limited withdrawals from July, handing control of security to Afghan forces in some areas ahead of a full transition across Afghanistan due by 2014. Afghan President Hamid Karzai meanwhile warned the year ahead was "critical" and would hold "crises and difficulties." Gates predicted fighting in the spring and summer would "be very tough." Gates said plans are on track to start a gradual withdrawal of US troops in July, but he said it was unlikely the drawdown would start in the hotly-contested south. In neighboring Helmand province, Gates earlier told US Marines they had made a "strategic breakthrough" in the district of Sangin, a Taliban bastion that has long frustrated coalition forces. □

## Robed, bewigged judge rugby-tackles prisoner

By **DAVID STRINGER**  
Associated Press

LONDON – A judge sporting full robes and a wig rugby-tackled a sex offender to the floor to prevent him from fleeing the court where he was on trial, the Press Association reported.

Judge Douglas Marks Moore, 60, wrestled with 34-year-old Paul Reid as he tried to escape from Woolwich Crown Court in London.

"The jury were just leaving when the defendant jumped up and ran across the clerk's bench to get to the judge's door," said prosecutor Rupert Gregory.

"As he went through the door, his honor Judge Marks Moore grabbed him round the throat to try to bring him down.



**Convict Paul Reid**

"Together they went down three steps and then Mr Reid broke free and ran down the judge's corridor.

"The judge gave chase. Just as Mr Reid was about to open a push-handle fire door, Marks

Moore rugby-tackled him around the throat and waist and brought him crashing to the ground, landing on top of him.

"He held him there, struggling and protesting, until the prison officers managed to catch up, secure him and return him to custody," Gregory added.

"The only thing preventing Paul Reid from pushing that fire door to the outside world was a judge in a wig and full robes."

Reid, who denies he was trying to flee court, had already pulled off a similar escape from a London court two years earlier.

The incident involving the judge happened last year and was being described in the Old Bailey court. □

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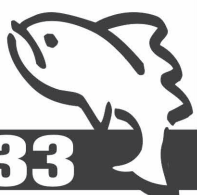
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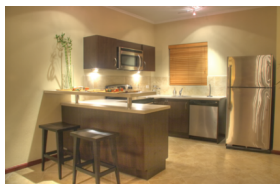
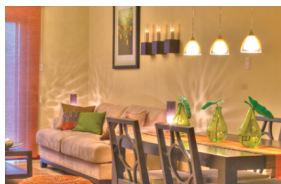




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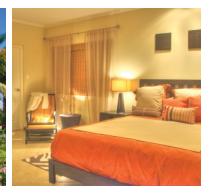
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## 'Sacred' turtle in need of help

By TRAN VAN MINH  
Associated Press

**HANOI, Vietnam** – Thousands of Vietnamese jostled and climbed trees around a lake in the capital Tuesday hoping to see a rare giant turtle considered sacred by many but in desperate need of medical attention.

Dozens of workers waded chest-deep through the chilly green water in Hanoi's Hoan Kiem Lake to try to capture the giant freshwater creature for the first time, so it could be pulled to an island and treated.

It is one of the world's most endangered turtles one of only four Rafetus swinhoei believed to be alive today but its value to the nation transcends the natural world.

The turtle traces its roots back through hundreds of years of local folklore, and some even believe the animal that lives in the lake today is the same mythical creature said to have helped a Vietnamese king fend off the Chinese nearly six centuries ago. In recent days, photos of it surfacing with open pink sores on its wrinkled neck and legs have sparked near panic among the public, with newspapers carrying front-page stories and Internet chatrooms buzzing with opinions. □

In Rio de Janeiro

## Police occupation allows Carnival into Rio slums



Float from Uniao da Ilha samba school

By JULIANA BARBASSA  
Associated Press

**RIO DE JANEIRO** – Residents of Rio's Formiga shantytown celebrated their first Carnival since police pushed out drug gangs by dancing and singing the praises of law enforcement in an odd twist to festivities usually known for irreverence and uninhibited excess. The slum hadn't had a Carnival street party in years before police moved in last July to expel gangs as part of an ambitious security program known by its Portuguese acronym, UPP, which has generally improved living conditions and met with support in targeted communities.

The permanent police presence has allowed Formiga and other slums to organize parties, and composer Gugu da Tijuca's theme song for Formiga's samba group this year celebrates this newfound freedom. "We're all coming together, Borel, Formiga, Casa Branca, Andaraí ... With our UPPs, we're going to raise some dust," the song goes, listing neighboring shantytowns that will be able to celebrate together after years of not being allowed to cross drug gang boundaries. There are Carnival groups based in nine of the 14 areas that have police presence. They range from small, neighborhood parties like

Formiga's to the stately samba groups that put on the huge parades watched by millions on Sunday and Monday.

The state pacification program was launched more than two years ago, and is expected to continue growing.

Three new policing units will be implemented after Carnival in communities where territory has already been won back by law enforcement.

A federal program modeled on Rio's will later be expanded to other states, the national

head of public safety, Regina Miki, said in February after touring two areas in which permanent police posts and increased services had driven out visibly armed drug dealers. She called the program "an example for the country."

The presence of permanent posts in slums has also made the Carnival safer for Rio residents far from the slums and for the nearly 1 million visitors who poured into the city for the celebration, years, and brings her satisfaction. □

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# Risk of economic reversal a reality



**DAVID LEONHARDT**  
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WASHINGTON — It's a strange moment for the economy. Just when it is picking up speed, the risks of another slowdown are also increasing. On the positive side, exports and consumer spending are up, and the job market finally seems to be improving. If anything, last week's jobs report probably undercounted recent gains. That often happens early in an economic recovery because the Labor Department has a hard time keeping track of newly started businesses.

On the negative side, oil prices have risen more than 40 percent since September, and every level of government is considering spending cuts and layoffs.

All in all, the situation is uncomfortably reminiscent of last spring. Back then, companies were just starting to hire again, before a combination of events — including Europe's debt crisis and the fading of the stimulus program here — spooked them and cut short the recovery. It's easy to imagine how energy costs and government cuts could do the same this year.

But no branch of the federal government seems to be taking these risks seriously enough. At the Federal Reserve, some top officials still argue the economy is at risk of overheating, even though they have been wrong on this point for months and still don't have much data on their side. These officials remain in the minority, but they can make it harder for Ben Bernanke, the

Fed chairman, to take action if the economy does weaken again.

The Obama administration, for its part, seems confident a true recovery is under way — much as it was confident a year ago, to its detriment. And congressional Republicans are eager to cut federal spending as quickly as possible even if the cuts mean the lay-off of government workers. "So be it," as John Boehner, the House speaker, said last month.

I understand that Republican leaders honestly believe that spending cuts will help the private sector recover. Over the long term, they're right that much of government needs to become more efficient. I'd just implore them to look at the evidence about the short-term effect of cuts.

Interest rates on corporate borrowing remain historically low, so there is no reason to think today's government borrowing is making it harder for companies to borrow. The countries that have tried austerity (England and Germany) are struggling, while the leaders of the country that enacted the most aggressive postcrisis stimulus (China) talk proudly of its success.

Perhaps most persuasively, the people who get paid to make economic predictions say that federal cutbacks would harm the economy this year and next. The research firm Macroeconomic Advisers estimates that the House Republicans' budget would raise the unemployment rate by 0.3 percentage points — which means about 500,000 lost jobs — by the end of next year.

Economists on Wall Street, which isn't exactly thrilled with the Obama administration, have made similar forecasts.

Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight, puts it this way: "I wouldn't be cutting spending over the rest of the fiscal year, because the economy still needs support." □

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# Failing after Muslims



**BOB HERBERT**  
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It has often been the case in America that specific religions, races and ethnic groups have been singled out for discrimination, demonization, incarceration and worse. But there have always been people willing to stand up boldly and courageously against such injustice. Their efforts are needed again now.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., appears to harbor a fierce unhappiness with the Muslim community in the United States. As chairman of the powerful Homeland Security Committee, King has all the clout he needs to act on his displeasure.

On Thursday, he plans to open the first of a series of committee hearings into the threat of homegrown Islamic terrorism and the bogus allegation that American Muslims have failed to cooperate with law enforcement efforts to foil ter-

rorist plots.

"There is a real threat to the country from the Muslim community," he said, "and the only way to get to the bottom of it is to investigate what is happening."

That kind of sweeping statement from a major government official about a religious minority — soon to be backed up by the intimidating aura of congressional hearings — can only serve to further demonize a group of Americans already being pummeled by bigotry and vicious stereotyping.

Rabbi Marc Schneier, president of the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding, was among about 500 people at a rally in Times Square on Sunday that was called to protest King's hearings.

"To single out Muslim-Americans as the source of homegrown terrorism," he said, "and not examine all forms of violence motivated by extremist belief — that, my friends, is an injustice."

To focus an investigative spotlight on an entire religious or ethnic community is a violation of everything America is supposed to stand for. But that does not seem to concern King. "The threat is coming from the Muslim community," he told The Times. "The

radicalization attempts are directed at the Muslim community. Why should I investigate other communities?"

The great danger of these hearings, in addition to undermining fundamental American values, is that for no good reason — nearly a decade after the terrible attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 — they will intensify the already overheated anti-Muslim feeling in the U.S. There is nothing wrong with the relentless investigation of terrorism. That's essential. But that is not the same as singling out, stereotyping and harassing an entire community.

On Monday, I spoke by phone with Colleen Kelly, a nurse practitioner from the Bronx whose brother, William Kelly Jr., was killed in the attack on the World Trade Center. She belongs to a group called September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows and is opposed to King's hearings. "I was trying to figure out why he's doing this," she said, "and I haven't come up with a good answer."

She recalled how people were stigmatized in the early years of the AIDS epidemic and the way that stigmas become the focus of attention and get in the way of the efforts really needed to avert tragedy. □





## N. Zealand outclasses Pakistan

New Zealand bowler Tim Southee, left, celebrates the wicket of Pakistan batsman Kamran Akmal during the ICC Cricket World Cup match between New Zealand and Pakistan in Pallekele, Sri Lanka, Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

Associated Press

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## PETA protests pigeon racing at Tyson's home



In this Oct. 26, 2010 publicity image released by Animal Planet, former boxer Mike Tyson is shown with his birds in Jersey City, N.J. during the filming of his show, "Taking on Tyson."

Associated Press

**HENDERSON,** Nevada (AP) — People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals demonstrated outside Mike Tyson's suburban home to protest the former boxing champion's role in pigeon racing. Henderson police spokesman Todd Rasmussen said Tuesday the PETA demonstration on Monday outside Tyson's gated hillside neighborhood was peaceful. The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported that some of the 20 protesters carried signs reading, "Featherweights: No match for a Heavyweight," and "Mike doesn't give pigeons a fighting chance." An attempt to reach Tyson through his wife on Tuesday was not successful. □

# SPIN DOCTOR

## McIlroy remarks spun into jabs at Tiger

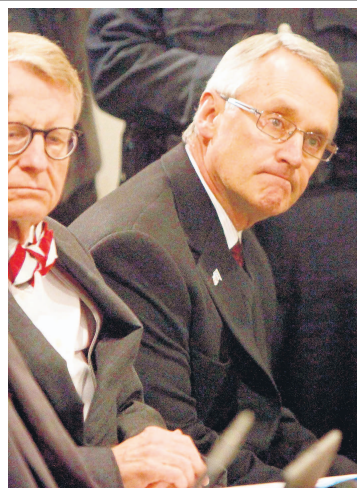
Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland hits out of a sand trap on the third hole while playing Jonathan Byrd during the first round of the Match Play Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011, in Marana, Ariz.

Associated Press

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Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel, left, sits next to E. Gordon Gee, Ohio State University president, during a news conference Tuesday, March 8, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio.

Associated Press

## Ohio St suspends Tressel 2 games for violation

By RUSTY MILLER

AP College Football Writer

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** — Ohio State suspended football coach Jim Tressel for two games and fined him \$250,000 on Tuesday for violating NCAA rules by failing to notify the school about information he received involving two players and questionable activities involving the sale of memorabilia. Tressel also will receive a public reprimand and must make a public apology. The NCAA is investigating and could reject the self-imposed penalties and impose additional sanctions.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said he never seriously considered firing Tressel for violating his contract, which specifies that he must immediately report any — the word is underlined in the contract — information which pertains to violations of NCAA, Big Ten or Ohio State bylaws and rules.

“Wherever we end up, Jim Tressel is our football coach,” Smith said. “He is our coach, and we trust him implicitly.” Last December, the NCAA suspended quarterback Terrelle Pryor and four teammates for the first five games on the 2011 season for selling jerseys, championship rings and trophies to a local tattoo parlor owner. The suspensions came just 16 days after the U.S. attorney told the school of a federal investigation that included players. □

# America's Cup bosses stoked with move to fast catamarans



The Artemis Racing boat, left, of Sweden, runs in front of the Ironbound boat, right, of the United States, as crew members adjust the spinnaker during match racing in the Oracle RC44 Cup sailing race Wednesday, March 2, 2011, in San Diego.

Associated Press

**BERNIE WILSON**

AP Sports Writer

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Russell Coutts and Larry Ellison are certain they made the right decision to have the next America's Cup sailed in fast 72-foot catamarans.

While traditionalists aren't so sure about the move, Coutts and Ellison already envision the 72-foot cats sprinting across San Francisco Bay in 2013 and pumping some adrenaline into the competition for the oldest trophy in international sports.

Coutts, who sailed undefeated through three straight America's Cup matches for two different countries, raves about the 45-foot prototype catamaran being tested in his home country, New Zealand. Ellison, the Silicon Valley maverick who helped bankroll Oracle Racing's victory in last year's America's Cup, can't wait to get his hands on the wheel of one.

“Modern sports have got to attract television viewers, they've got to attract kids, they've got to be exciting,” Ellison, the Oracle Corp. CEO, said after sailing with Coutts in the Oracle RC44 San Diego regatta last weekend. “They've got to be, if not extreme, borderline extreme. The America's Cup, I believe,

should be the best sailors sailing the fastest boats. That's not what it's been. It's been the best sailors, I think, but not anywhere near the fastest boats. I think now we will meet the goal of, ‘Boy, that's an America's Cup boat. That's an America's Cup yacht. That's the fastest boat on the planet.’ “

An America's Cup World Series will begin later this year at ports around the world in the 45-foot cats. The 72-footers will come on line next year.

Oracle Racing used a massive, 90-by-90-foot trimaran with a radical 223-foot wing sail to sweep two races against Alinghi of Switzerland in February 2010 off Valencia, Spain, and bring the silver trophy to the Golden Gate Yacht Club. That was a one-off showdown born out of a long, bitter court fight.

In a shake-up designed to make the America's Cup more modern and fan-friendly, Oracle Racing and the Italian syndicate that represents challengers decided to switch from plodding sloops to 72-foot cats with wing sails for 2013.

Coutts recently sailed the prototype AC45 and said he's “more convinced than ever” that it's the right direction for

sailing's marquee regatta.

Coutts said that once he sailed the AC45, he decided he'd be helming one in the AC World Series. Jimmy Spithill, who steered the trimaran last year, will be at the wheel of another AC45 for Oracle.

“I can understand the people on the outside, sometimes they don't understand what's happening. It's normal. But I think if you jumped on an AC45 and sailed it for a day, pretty much everyone that's done that has come off it and said, ‘This is a no-brainer,’ “ said Coutts, the CEO of Oracle Racing. “The boats will be great boats.”

Coutts guesses that once Ellison gets the chance to sail one, “He'll just say, ‘Get me one of these boats.’ He'll want to drive one.”

The AC45 capsized last month after getting hit by a freak breeze.

“It probably won't be the last to capsize,” Coutts said. “In some ways, it'll add to the spectacle.”

Once the 72-footers come on line, “It'll be another level again,” Coutts said. “Obviously in terms of scale, they'll be fantastic. Very fast, very powerful.”

The wing sail will be bigger than the wing of a Boeing 747. □

## NFL offers more financial information union deciding

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Pro Football Writer

**WASHINGTON** — The NFL Players Association retained an international investment bank to help it decide whether the league's offer to reveal more financial information during negotiations will be enough to satisfy the union's call for full disclosure.

Zeroing in on the crux of the labor dispute — how to split \$9 billion in revenues — one NFLPA executive committee member, Cleveland Browns linebacker Scott Fujita, said in a telephone interview Tuesday with The Associated Press and NFL Network that what the NFL has turned over to the union so far “hasn't been sufficient.”

Another executive committee member, Indianapolis Colts center Jeff Saturday, said as he left Tuesday's 9 1/2-hour mediation session that the bank would “help judge how helpful the material they were offering to give us” would be. The current collective bargaining agreement was set to expire last week, but two extensions now have pushed the cutoff to the end of Friday.

While progress has been made, both sides have stuck to their stances when it comes to two central issues: The NFLPA has not agreed to any major economic concessions; the NFL has not agreed to the union's long-held demand that the league completely open its books, repeatedly saying the players have enough data.

One key question is what cut team owners should get up front to help cover costs such as stadium construction and improvement. Under the old deal, owners received more than \$1 billion off the top. They entered these negotiations seeking to add another \$1 billion to that amount, before other revenues are divided with players. □



# McIlroy opinions spun into criticism of Tiger

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

**DORAL, Florida (AP)** — One of the brightest young stars in golf, Rory McIlroy has been making news over the last few weeks for giving his opinion on Tiger Woods, and there really isn't much good to say about the game of the No. 5 player in the world.

Yet the perception is that McIlroy is taking one too many jabs at Woods, and that he is soon to join the list of players whose criticism comes back to haunt them.

But that assumes it was criticism in the first place.

In an essay under McIlroy's byline in Sports Illustrated's "Golf Plus" section, McIlroy said that Woods is not playing as well as he did a couple of years ago, let alone a decade ago when no one was close to him in the game.

"I'm not sure we are going to see him dominate again the way he did," McIlroy said in the essay. "He never seemed like he would make a mistake. It's not that he's playing badly. He's simply playing badly by Tiger's standards. He's playing like an ordinary golfer. People expect more of him because of what he has achieved."

Indeed, there are questions as to whether Woods can rule golf the way he did in 2000, when his nine wins included three straight majors. Or the way he did after his father died in 2006, when he won 18 of 33 tournaments worldwide, four of eight majors and had a seven-month stretch without ever losing.

Can anything else be disputed?

The problem is that Woods, through a dozen years of unprecedented dominance, has created a culture of being off limits to other players giving honest answers.

And remember, answers usually are the product of a question.

This only looks bad on two counts. One is that it's easy to pile on Woods right now, even though he has only himself to blame. The other is that the commentary is coming from a 21-year-old with all of two ca-

reer victories, who has never faced Woods at his best.

"That's the answer a 21-year-old would give, isn't it?" Lee Westwood said last week with a smile. "I think having played with Tiger since 1997 or something like that ... there's an old saying that class is permanent and form is fickle. He's the classiest player I've ever played with and I'd be wise enough to know not to write him off."

"I've seen him play poorly and win tournaments," Westwood said. "He doesn't necessarily have to get back to where he was."

And then he whimsically added, "I'll have a word with Rory later."

Last year, McIlroy talked about Woods before the Ryder Cup, when the American had yet to be added to the U.S. team as a captain's pick. In an interview with an Irish newspaper, he said he expected Woods to be in Wales.

"I would love to face him," McIlroy said. "Unless his game rapidly improves ... I think anyone in the European team would fancy their chances against him."

The interview took place a week after Woods finished next-to-last at Firestone, where he had won seven times and never finished out of the top 10. Woods had his worst 72-hole score as a professional that week. He didn't look

capable of beating anyone.

A month later, there were rumors swirling around Cog Hill that Woods had told McIlroy, "Be careful what you wish for." Woods denied that, although he was aware of the comments. And while he mentioned McIlroy in context with Stephen Ames, Woods also gave the kid a break. "At least Rory said, 'Unless my game improves,'" Woods said, a concession to fact.

The reference to Ames came from the 2006 Match Play Championship, when Ames was the No. 64 seed and jokingly said on the practice range about his chances, "Anything can happen — especially where he's hitting the ball."

It was harmless humor, although the quote became far more serious in the "lift, clean and paste" era of the Internet that eliminated all context. Asked about it after the match, Woods only mentioned the score — 9 and 8.

There have been others. Rory Sabbatini once said Woods looked as "beatable as ever" after losing to him at Quail Hollow, and three months later, Woods went from a one-shot deficit to Sabbatini to an eight-shot victory at Firestone. Some of these grudges are overcooked.

Woods wasn't bothered by Sabbatini's comments as much as he was Sabbatini



Copyright 2011 The Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, taps in a putt on the first hole during the third round of the Honda Classic golf tournament, Saturday, March 5, 2011, in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

withdrawing from the Chevron World Challenge before the final round. And while Vijay Singh's caddie wrote, "Tiger Who?" on the back of his cap at the Presidents Cup before Woods' 2-and-1 victory, he and Singh have long had mutual respect for each other. McIlroy's only playful jab came two weeks ago at the

Match Play Championship, when he was asked about a potential changing of the guard with so many good young players. He started to say that Woods and Phil Mickelson have not gotten any worse when he paused and said with a smile, "Well, yeah, I mean I don't think Phil has gotten any worse." □

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# Anthony, Stoudemire lead Knicks to rout of Jazz



New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony, left, and Amar'e Stoudemire look on from the bench during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Utah Jazz at Madison Square Garden, Monday, March 7, 2011, in New York.

Associated Press

## NBA Roundup

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Carmelo Anthony scored 34 points and Amare Stoudemire added 31 as the New York Knicks beat the Utah Jazz 131-109 on Monday. Anthony and Stoudemire combined to make 24 of 31 shots, then were on the bench for the entire final period. Stoudemire departed long before the third even ended, shooting 12-of-15 in just 24 minutes, and Anthony soon joined him after his first

30-point game with the Knicks. Toney Douglas had 20 points in a strong start in place of the injured Chauncey Billups as the Knicks moved a game ahead of Philadelphia for sixth place in the Eastern Conference. New York shot 56 percent from the field in its highest-scoring effort of the season. Al Jefferson scored a season-high 36 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Jazz, who opened an important four-game road trip by losing for the ninth time in 11 games.

**Trail Blazers 89, Magic 85** At Orlando, Florida, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 24 points and Andre Miller added 15 as Portland held on to beat Orlando, which were without the suspended Dwight Howard. Portland won its third straight, and 10th in 13 games. The Blazers also swept the two-game season series with Orlando. **Mavericks 108, Timberwolves 105** At Minneapolis, Dirk Nowitzki overcame foul trouble to score 25 points in 27 minutes and help Dallas outlast Minnesota. Nowitzki picked up his fourth foul early in the third quarter, and Brian Cardinal stepped in to score a season-high 12 points for the Mavericks in their 19th win in 21 games. Kevin Love had 23 points and 17 rebounds for Minnesota. He posted his 51st double-double in a row, which is equal with Moses Malone in 1978-79 for the longest streak since the NBA-ABA merger in 1976. Michael Beasley added 20 points and nine rebounds for the worst team in the Western Conference, who gave the powerful Mavericks all they could handle. **Rockets 123, Kings 101** At Sacramento, California, Chad Budinger scored 20 points and Kyle Lowry had 19 points, eight assists and seven rebounds for Houston, which defeated Sacramento to give coach Rick Adelman his 935th win as an NBA coach. The victory tied Adelman with Dick Motta for 10th on the career coaching victories list. □

points and nine rebounds, and Ronnie Brewer and Luol Deng scored 10. Jarrett Jack, starting in Paul's place, led the Hornets with 23 points. **Clippers 92, Bobcats 87** At Charlotte, North Carolina, Blake Griffin had 17 points and 15 rebounds as the Los Angeles Clippers had more offensive options than Charlotte. With Eric Gordon sidelined again with more wrist problems, the Clippers got 17 points from Mo Williams, and 16 points and 10 rebounds off the bench from Chris Kaman in their third straight victory. Gerald Henderson scored 20 points and Boris Diaw added 15 of his 19 points in the first half for the Bobcats. **Grizzlies 107, Thunder 101** At Memphis, Tennessee, Mike Conley and Tony Allen each scored 20 points, and Marc Gasol added 18 as Memphis withstood a second-half rally to defeat Oklahoma City. Zach Randolph added 17 points for Memphis, including four free throws in the closing seconds, as the Grizzlies maintained their hold on the eighth playoff spot in the Western Conference. Russell Westbrook had 27 points and seven assists for Oklahoma City,

# Ovechkin scores 50 goal, Capitals beat Lightning

## NHL Roundup

**TAMPA, Florida (AP)** — Alex Ovechkin assisted on Washington's only goal in regulation, then scored in the opening round of the shootout to give the first-place Capitals a 2-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Monday. Alexander Semin came up big for the Caps for the second straight night, tying the game 1-1 with 5:32 remaining in the third period. Goalie Braden Holtby replaced Michal Neuvirth after the opening period and

stopped 21 shots before stopping Dominic Moore, Adam Hall and Vincent Lecavalier in the shootout to give Washington its fifth straight win. Sean Bergenheim scored Tampa Bay's goal on a first-period power play, redirecting a shot past Neuvirth. **Blues 5, Blue Jackets 4, SO** At St. Louis, Andy McDonald scored two goals and added another in a shootout as St. Louis edged Columbus. Ben Bishop allowed one goal on 20 shots after relieving Ty Conklin midway through the first period with St. Louis trailing 3-1.

The Blues scored three times on four shots against Steve Mason in the shootout with Alex Steen getting the deciding tally. Jakub Voracek had a goal and assist for Columbus, and Rick Nash had two assists. Patrik Berglund added a goal and an assist for the Blues, who totaled four goals the previous four games. David Backes had two assists, ending a five-game point drought. **Stars 4, Kings 3, OT** At Los Angeles, Brenden Morrow scored 34 seconds into overtime as Dallas rallied from a late deficit to beat Los



Washington Capitals' Alex Ovechkin celebrates his shootout goal in an NHL hockey game against the Tampa Bay Lightning, Monday, March 7, 2011, in Tampa, Fla. The Capitals won 2-1.

Associated Press

Angeles. The Dallas captain collected a back pass from Mike Ribeiro and eluded three Kings to score his 26th goal of the season.

Trevor Daley and Jamie Benn scored tying goals for the Stars in the third period, with Benn getting a short-handed breakaway goal with 14:40 to play. □



## NBA Roundup

## Anthony, Stoudemire lead Knicks to rout of Jazz

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Carmelo Anthony scored 34 points and Amare Stoudemire added 31 as the New York Knicks beat the Utah Jazz 131-109 on Monday.

Anthony and Stoudemire combined to make 24 of 31 shots, then were on the bench for the entire final period. Stoudemire departed long before the third even ended, shooting 12-of-15 in just 24 minutes, and Anthony soon joined him after his first 30-point game with the Knicks.

Toney Douglas had 20 points in a strong start in place of the injured Chauncey Billups as the Knicks moved a game ahead of Philadelphia for sixth place in the Eastern Conference. New York shot 56 percent from the field in its highest-scoring effort of the season.

Al Jefferson scored a season-high 36 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Jazz, who opened an important four-game road trip by losing for the ninth time in 11 games.

**Trail Blazers 89, Magic 85**  
At Orlando, Florida, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 24 points and Andre Miller added 15 as Portland held on to beat Orlando, which were without the suspended

Dwight Howard.

Portland won its third straight, and 10th in 13 games. The Blazers also swept the two-game season series with Orlando.

Marcus Camby was held scoreless, but had 10 rebounds to help the Blazers fend off a late rally by the Magic.

Orlando lost its second consecutive game and dropped to 1-2 this season without Howard, who sat out while serving a one-game suspension after picking up his 16th technical foul Friday. Jason Richardson led Orlando with 22 points.

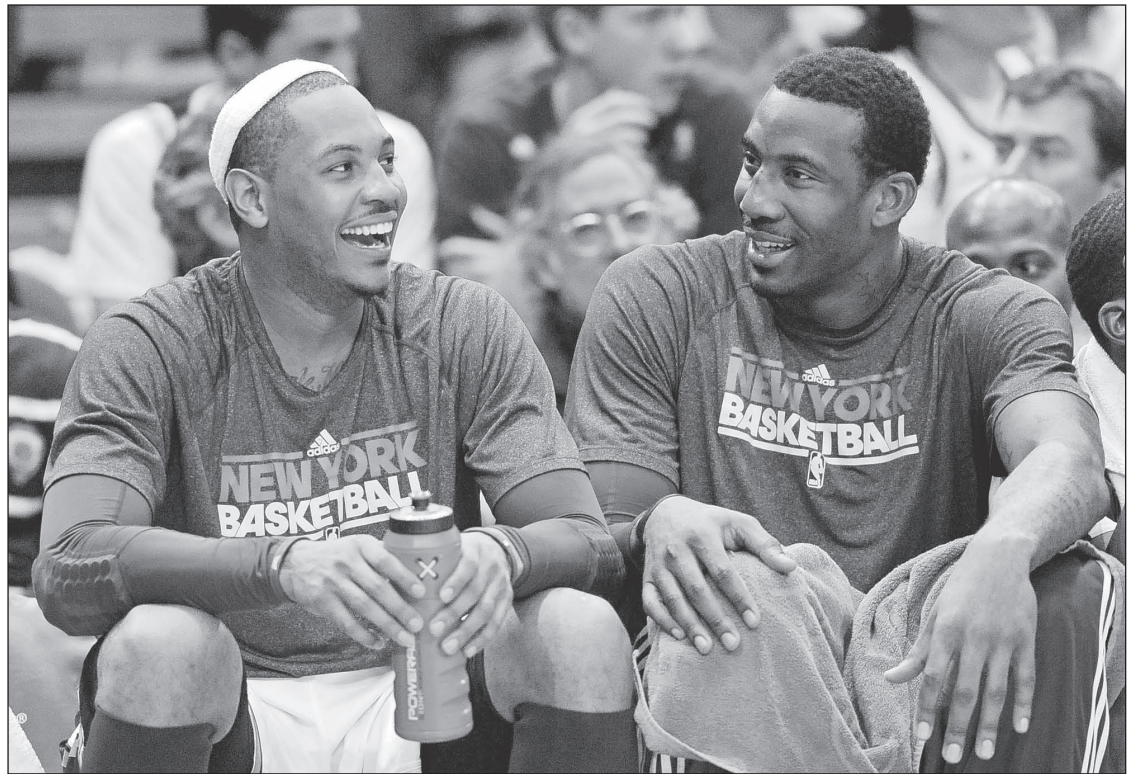
#### **Bulls 85, Hornets 77**

At Chicago, Derrick Rose scored 24 points as Chicago beat New Orleans with Hornets star Chris Paul sidelined by a concussion.

The four-time All-Star watched from the sideline after colliding with Cleveland's Ramon Sessions in Sunday's win and remains day to day. Without him, the Hornets put up a fight against the Central division leaders but were shut out over the final 3:15.

Carlos Boozer added 19 points and nine rebounds, and Ronnie Brewer and Luol Deng scored 10.

Jarrett Jack, starting in Paul's place, led the Hornets with 23



New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony, left, and Amar'e Stoudemire look on from the bench during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Utah Jazz at Madison Square Garden, Monday, March 7, 2011, in New York.

points.

#### **Clippers 92, Bobcats 87**

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Blake Griffin had 17 points and 15 rebounds as the Los Angeles Clippers had more offensive options than Charlotte.

With Eric Gordon sidelined again with more wrist problems, the Clippers got 17 points from Mo Williams, and 16 points and 10 rebounds off the bench from Chris Kaman

in their third straight victory.

Gerald Henderson scored 20 points and Boris Diaw added 15 of his 19 points in the first half for the Bobcats.

#### **Grizzlies 107, Thunder 101**

At Memphis, Tennessee, Mike Conley and Tony Allen each scored 20 points, and Marc Gasol added 18 as Memphis withstood a second-half rally

*Associated Press*

to defeat Oklahoma City.

**In other NBA games it was L.A. Clippers 92, Charlotte 87; Portland 89, Orlando 85; New York 131, Utah 109; Chicago 85, New Orleans 77; Memphis 107, Oklahoma City 101; Dallas 108, Minnesota 105; and Houston 123, Sacramento 101.**

## Running back Tiki Barber plans to return to NFL

**EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.** — After four years in retirement, former New York Giants running back Tiki Barber is looking to get back into the NFL.

It won't be with the Giants, though.

The Giants acknowledged on Tuesday that the 35-year-old Barber has asked to be taken off the reserve-retirement list and that they will release him once the league allows it. Teams cannot make roster moves during the current extension of the CBA talks.

Barber is the Giants' career rushing leader with 10,449 yards, 22nd best in league history.

SI.com first reported that Barber filed paperwork with the NFL to end his retirement.

"We wish Tiki nothing but the best, and when we are able to make the transaction, we will release him from our reserve-retired list," the Giants said.

Barber retired after the 2006 season, the year before the Giants' stunning Super Bowl win over the previously undefeated New England Patriots. He had two years left on his contract when he left the game for a job in television, so the Giants still hold his rights.

Barber his second career with NBC fizzled and he did not help himself with New York metropolitan area fans, criticizing coach Tom Coughlin and former teammate Eli Manning, saying the quarterback lacked some leadership skills.

Barber was booed by fans this past season when Giants unveiled their ring of honor in their new \$1.6 billion stadium.

In its report, SI.com said Barber reportedly left his wife of 11 years, Ginny, for 23-year-old Traci Johnson, a former NBC intern. Ginny was eight months pregnant at the time. Soon



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# Taylor smashes century on 27th birthday

**RIZWAN ALI**

**Associated Press**

**PALLEKELE, Sri Lanka (AP)**

— Ross Taylor celebrated his 27th birthday with a sparkling unbeaten 131 on Tuesday as New Zealand crushed hapless Pakistan by 110 runs in a World Cup Group A match.

Taylor hit seven towering sixes and eight fours in his 124-ball knock to propel New Zealand to 302-7 after 100 was smashed off the last five overs of their innings. After Pakistan's feeble attempts in the field, the New Zealanders then gave a masterclass in athletic fielding to a large Sri Lankan crowd.

"I Had a bit of luck early on," Taylor said. "Even when I was on 30-40 I still struggled, but I think the way Nathan (McCullum) came in and Jac (Jacob Oram) came in, I just backed myself and had a few cameos in the middle."

Fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar twice found the edge of Taylor's bat early in his innings but wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal stood still for the first one and then floored a regulation catch.

New Zealand pacemen Tim Southee (3-25) and Kyle Mills (2-43) rolled over Pakistan's top order and the 1992 champions were bowled out for 192 in 41.4 overs at the



**New Zealand's Ross Taylor leaves the field after helping defeat Pakistan in their ICC Cricket World Cup match between New Zealand and Pakistan in Pallekele, Sri Lanka, Tuesday, March 8, 2011.**

*Associated Press*

Taylor set off his own birthday fireworks to surpass his previous best of an unbeaten 128 made against India in 2006. Akmal's weaknesses behind the wickets were once again shown up as he completely ignored a simple chance and the ball went past him for a boundary before Taylor scored and then fumbled a sitter.

"I don't have any excuse," Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi

said. "We didn't bowl well, we didn't field well and we missed opportunities. I think fielding is the area where you can easily win a lot of games." After starting slowly, Taylor sped up with Jacob Oram (25) in a whirlwind seventh wicket stand of 85 off a mere 22 deliveries.

New Zealand's batsmen struggled to score freely after captain Daniel Vettori won the toss and opted to bat first at a venue which became the 178th venue to host one-day internationals. Vettori injured his knee while fielding and had to be helped from the field. The extent of his injury was not immediately known. Akhtar knocked back Brendon McCullum's off stump with a superb fourth delivery that swung back into the righthander.

Martin Gupthill made a fighting 57 but struggled after Afridi deployed leftarm spinner Abdur Rehman with the new ball.

It was the first time in 13 years that Pakistan had opened with a spinner in a one-day international.

Jamie How struggled for 29 balls before Umar Gul had him trapped lbw and Gupthill fell to Afridi's full delivery soon after completing his half century. □



**Matthew Goss, of Australia, celebrates on the podium after winning the third stage of the Paris-Nice cycling race in Nuits-Saint-Georges, central France, Tuesday, March 8, 2011.**

*Associated Press*

**NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES, France (AP)** — Australian rider Matthew Goss won the third stage of the Paris-Nice race Tuesday, beating Heinrich Haussler and Denis Galimzyanov in a clustered sprint finish that saw several cyclists crash.

Peter Sagan of Slovakia fell spectacularly after the final turn as his back wheel skidded under him, and his tumble caused at least two other riders to crash. Goss got his wheel in front and the HTC-Highroad rider held on to win.

## Matthew Goss wins 3rd stage of Paris-Nice

Sagan had cuts to his left arm and leg but got up and was not seriously hurt.

Goss was given a provisional winning time of 5 hours, 16 minutes and 48 seconds over the 125.2-mile trek from Cosne-Cours-sur-Loire to Nuits-Saint-Georges.

Stage 3 featured a moderate category 2 climb near the end.

UCI wins landmark anti-doping verdicts

**LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP)** — The International Cycling Union says Italian rider Franco Pellizotti has been found guilty of doping and must serve a two-year suspension in a landmark case for the sport's biological passport project.

The UCI tells The Associated Press that the Court of Arbitration for Sport upheld an appeal by cycling's governing body seeking to ban Pellizotti after he was cleared by an Italian anti-doping court.

The UCI says CAS also rejected Pietro Caucchioli's appeal against a two-year suspension imposed by the Italian Olympic Committee.

Pellizotti and Caucchioli never tested positive for banned drugs but showed irregular results in blood samples taken for their biological passport. □



## 63 % under 30 admit driving while on phone

By JIM FITZGERALD  
Associated Press

YONKERS, N.Y. — Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood said Monday he “dreaded the day” each of his four children turned 16. And then he cited the statistics that explain why. Car crashes are the leading cause of teen deaths. Nearly 5,500 people in the U.S. were killed in distracted driving accidents in 2009. And according to a poll LaHood released, 63 percent of drivers under 30 acknowledge using a handheld phone while behind the wheel.

Thirty percent say they’ve sent text messages while driving.

“Distracted driving has become a deadly epidemic on America’s roads, and teens are especially vulnerable because of their inexperience behind the wheel and, often, peer pressure,” LaHood said.

He came to the Yonkers, N.Y., headquarters of Consumer Reports magazine to announce a partnership aimed at getting young people to realize that “the safest way to get from one place to another is to hang up and drive.”

The program includes a flier that lists six steps parents can take, including setting a good example and setting and enforcing ground rules.

The brochure is available online and will be distributed to schools and volunteer groups; a public service announcement has been produced and is being sent to TV stations nationwide; and a video meant to be played in retail stores including Wal-Mart could be seen by as many as 100 million people, LaHood said.

Another video on the Transportation Department website features Miss South Dakota, Loren Vaillancourt, who was at Monday’s news conference.

Her brother was killed in a distracted-driver accident, and she says on the video, “Because someone made a stupid mistake, I’m an only child.”

Jacy Good, 24, of White

Plains, N.Y., said she lost both her parents and was severely injured in a distracted-driving crash in Pennsylvania on her college graduation day in 2008. She has been campaigning ever since for a law against driving while phoning in Pennsylvania.

“If we can prevent it from happening to more people, there might be some justice in this world,” Good said.

But she said there’s some built-in frustration, because even in New York, which has a law against it, “everyone’s still talking on their cell phones.”

LaHood said he has met with “every CEO of every car manufacturing company” about whether features in new cars contribute to distracted driving. Regulators don’t yet have “good data” on the subject, he said. □

## Toyota’s global sales of hybrid cars top 3 million

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota Motor Corp. said Tuesday that global sales of its hybrid models have topped 3 million vehicles on the back of brisk demand for the Prius.

The world’s No. 1 automaker has sold more than 3.03 million gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles worldwide since 1997, when Toyota first rolled out the Prius in Japan, it said. The Prius, the world’s first mass-produced hybrid car, alone accounts for 72 percent of Toyota’s global hybrid car sales. Last year, Toyota sold 7.53 million vehicles worldwide and 690,000 of those were hybrids.

Over 60 percent of Toyota’s hybrid sales come from abroad with the rest in Japan. In North America, Toyota’s hybrid sales have surged to



In this March 4, 2010 file photo, a visitor examines a Toyota 2010 Prius hybrid on display at the automaker’s exhibition hall in Toyota, central Japan.

Associated Press

1.15 million vehicles from just 5,790 in 2000.

Toyota’s hybrid sales far outnumbered those by rivals. Honda Motor Co. said it has sold around 610,000 hybrid cars worldwide. Nissan Motor Co., which began hybrid vehicles sales in Japan late

last year, said domestic hybrid sales totaled 1,900 vehicles as of February 2011.

Nissan launched sales of hybrid vehicles in North America in 2007.

But the company said figures for hybrid sales in the region were not available. □

## Castro passes 100,000 Twitter followers

PAUL HAVEN  
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba’s Maximum Leader is also on top in cyberspace.

A Twitter account that tweets excerpts from former President Fidel Castro’s frequent musings on world affairs has passed 100,000 followers — which the government says makes it the first official Cuban-themed Twitter account to break that threshold.

The account, set up about a year ago, has sent more than 1,750 tweets with Castro’s thoughts, including his fears that the world is headed for nuclear Armageddon, and his warnings that NATO is planning to invade Libya.

“The U.S. and NATO can’t resist taking advantage of the conflict in Libya to promote military intervention,” read a tweet from Saturday, quoting from an opinion piece Castro wrote a few days earlier.

“In every U.S. war, like Vietnam, the most cynical justifications and measures prevailed,” read another posted on Sunday.



Cuban curators work as an image of Cuba’s leader Fidel Castro is exhibited at the “Oficios” gallery in Old Havana, Cuba, Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

Associated Press

Castro, 84, stepped down as Cuban president in 2006 — first temporarily, then permanently — ceding power to his brother Raul. He remains head of the Communist Party and often publishes opinion pieces, called “Reflections,” in Cuba’s state-run news media.

While Castro is a self-professed news junky who spends hours on the Internet each day, he does not send the tweets out personally, according to a story in the

state-run Cubadebate web site. Instead, members of the Cubadebate staff select passages from his writings.

And while Castro’s total is impressive, the government’s claim that he is the most-followed Cuban Twitterer is far from undisputed. Yoani Sanchez, a dissident blogger who has gained global fame for her biting commentary about life on the island, has 109,000 followers.

Neither of them has much competition in Cuba, where

less than 2 percent of the island’s population uses the Internet, the lowest penetration rate in the Western Hemisphere.

Castro also trails several global figures in the Twitter race: his good friend, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, has nearly 1.3 million followers; British Prime Minister David Cameron has nearly 1.8 million; and President Barack Obama has nearly 7 million.

And the news of Castro’s breakthrough is unlikely to impress the world’s reigning tweeting champion: With 8.6 million followers and counting, pop star Lady Gaga is on a cyberstage by herself. □







The new Starbucks Corp. logo is shown next to older versions of the logo, Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at a Starbucks store in downtown Seattle, on the day marking the 40th anniversary of the company.

Associated Press

### Starbucks' new logo debuts on cups, cafes

SEATTLE (AP) — Starbucks customers are seeing something new when they sip their coffee.

The Seattle-based company rolled out its new words-free logo Tuesday on all its cups. Signs also changed at a handful of stores.

The Associated Press first reported in January that Starbucks was updating its logo and would introduce it this month in conjunction with its 40-year anniversary.

Starbucks also introduced a number of new coffee flavors and baked goods as part of the anniversary celebration.

The company says the updated logo is better suited for a business that wants to grow beyond just coffee and cafes.

### Deutsche Telekom shares up on report

BERLIN (AP) — Deutsche Telekom AG's shares were the best performer on Frankfurt's main stock index Tuesday following a report that the German company has held talks to sell its T-Mobile USA unit.

The company's shares closed up just under 4 percent at €10.01 (\$14.00). Frankfurt's DAX index of blue-chip stocks was barely changed overall, ticking up less than 0.1 percent. Deutsche Telekom said it had nothing to announce and doesn't comment on speculation.

Bloomberg reported that Deutsche Telekom has held talks to sell T-Mobile USA to Sprint Nextel Corp. in exchange for a major stake in the combined company. The report cited anonymous sources with knowledge of the matter, who said it was still not clear if a deal would be reached.

Sprint Nextel also declined to comment.

### Atlanta secures approval for Cuba flights

ATLANTA (AP) — The world's busiest airport says it has received federal approval for charter flights to Cuba.

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport disclosed Tuesday that it has been approved by federal regulators as one of several gateways to Cuba. The move allows charter flights for passengers with close relatives in Cuba and others involved in medical, agricultural, education or religious activities involving the Caribbean island nation. Other airports that already have the authority include Los Angeles, New York and Miami.

Airport general manager Louis Miller says the move will allow tens of thousands of Cuban-Americans to easily reunite with their friends and families.

Delta Air Lines says it is already licensed to operate charter flights to Cuba and expects to begin those nonstop flights from Atlanta to Cuba later this year.



## 2 years after market low, the little guy is back

DAVE CARPENTER

AP Personal Finance Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — As a historic bull market reaches its second birthday, everyday investors are piling back into stocks, finally ready for more risk and hoping the rally has further to go.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index has almost doubled since March 9, 2009, when it hit a 12-year low after the financial crisis. And the Dow Jones industrials are back above 12,000, about 2,000 points shy of their all-time high.

Little-guy investors appear to be on board. Since the beginning of the year, investors have put \$24.2 billion into U.S. stock mutual funds, according to the Investment Company Institute. They withdrew \$96.7 billion in 2010.

"It didn't feel right to be back in until now," says Richard Dukas, who heads a public relations firm in New York City. "I still don't want to put all my money in the market, but I believe we've come through the worst of it."

After the 2008 financial meltdown, Dukas and his wife converted their company-sponsored retirement accounts into cash. They had been burned during the bubble in technology stocks a decade ago, and Dukas says he has been "extremely skittish" ever since.

Now Dukas, 48, says 85 percent of his portfolio is back in mutual funds, although he maintains a small cushion of cash.

More job security, strengthening retirement investment account balances and improvement in the overall U.S. economy are some of the factors that have brought everyday investors back to the market. A snapshot of what's happened:

— The outlook of investors as measured by stock newsletters and market surveys has been extremely bullish for two or three months, says Mark Arbeter, chief

technical strategist for S&P Equity Research.

— Many workers have enjoyed seeing their retirement account balances return to where they stood at the market's peak because they kept contributing during the down years. Many who have maintained their accounts for a decade or longer still have some ground to make up because of their larger starting balances.

— Americans who still have jobs are as secure as they've been in 14 years. That's because the number of planned layoffs has fallen to a low, according to outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas.

The combination has boosted confidence and brought investors back to a rising market. The Dow was trading Tuesday at around 12,200, up 86 percent from the

2009 low. It's still 14 percent below its all-time high in October 2007.

While the economy is improving, it will take a lot longer to erase the abject fear that average investors have felt about owning stocks the last two years, says Jason Trennert, chief investment strategist for Strategas Research Partners in New York.

One reason to set aside their reservations: They can't find a better place to stash their money. The bull market in bonds has ended, money-market accounts are returning 1 percent or less, and the average two-year CD (certificate of deposit) earns no more than 1.5 percent.

As a result, many investors returning to the market are tiptoeing back in. They're buying what Trennert calls "stocks that look like bonds" — dividend-paying

blue chips that they hope will hedge their risk by guaranteeing at least a dividend payout.

For example, while stocks like Johnson & Johnson and Procter & Gamble haven't gone up much since 2009, their yields — 3.5 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively — mean investors can still pocket something. "What swayed me is being frustrated having my money parked where it's earning almost nothing," says Debra Condren, a New York business consultant, who has been easing back into the market over the last four months. She still has only 30 percent of her investments in stocks, compared with 80 to 85 percent before the crash. Besides reinvesting gradually, Condren says she is much more vigilant about her stocks.



In this March 2, 2011 file photo, specialist John Urbanowicz, left, works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market's fastest climb in decades reaches the two-year mark Wednesday, March 9, yet investors aren't exuberant. They're cautious and watching their stocks closely for fear that they might experience another meltdown.

Associated Press

### Beyond Libya

## Oil market warily eyes Saudi Arabia

CHRIS KAHN

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil Prices retreated Tuesday as OPEC ministers discussed whether to ramp up oil production in the wake of the Libyan uprising. Benchmark oil for April delivery fell 42 cents to settle at \$105.02 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The Libyan crisis has forced companies to evacuate workers, and most of the country's 1.6 million barrels of daily production has been shut down. Boosting production elsewhere would likely cool off overheated energy prices, but experts warn that doing so would weaken OPEC's ability to manage global supplies later this year. Beyond the crisis in Libya, what's making energy markets nervous — and driving up oil prices — is concern about Saudi Arabia.

The world's largest oil exporter is dealing with protests at home, although smaller in scale than those in nearby countries. Larger demonstrations in neighboring Bahrain have oil traders fearing the unrest could spill across the border.



Gasoline prices are displayed Tuesday, March 8, 2011, in Oakland, Calif. Oil Prices retreated Tuesday as OPEC ministers discussed whether to ramp up oil production in the wake of the Libyan uprising.

Associated Press

With the entire region in upheaval, it would be a mistake to think the Saudis have shielded themselves from the anger that ousted leaders in Egypt and Tunisia, Barclays analyst Helima Croft said. The string of rebellions in North Africa and the Middle East took the world by surprise, forcing a fundamental realign-

ment of the region's political power.

"You could say, they're rich, (King) Abdulla's popular, no problem," Croft said. But anything is possible. "If anyone had asked us in January whether (Egypt's) Hosni Mubarak would be gone, most of us would have said 'absolutely not.'"□

## 'Underwater' mortgages rise as home prices fall



A foreclosed house sign with sale pending is shown in Tigard, Ore., Tuesday, March, 8, 2011. The number of Americans who owe more on their mortgages than their homes are worth rose at the end of last year, preventing many people from selling their homes in an already weak housing market.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans who owe more on their mortgages than their homes are worth rose at the end of last year, preventing many people from selling their homes in an already weak housing market. About 11.1 million households, or 23.1 percent of all mortgaged homes, were "un-

derwater" in the October-December quarter, according to report released Tuesday by housing data firm CoreLogic. That's up from 22.5 percent, or 10.8 million households, in the July-September quarter. The number of negative home equity mortgages had fallen in the previous three quarters. But that was mostly because

more homes had fallen into foreclosure.

Underwater mortgages typically rise when home prices fall. Home prices in December hit their lowest point since the housing bust in 11 of 20 major U.S. metro areas. In a healthy housing market, about 5 percent of homeowners are underwater. Roughly two-thirds of homeowners in Nevada with a mortgage had negative home equity, the worst in the U.S. Arizona, Florida, Michigan and California were next, with up to 50 percent of homeowners with mortgages in those states underwater.

Oklahoma had the smallest percentage of underwater homeowners in the October-December quarter, at 5.8 percent. Only nine states recorded percentages less than 10 percent.□



## Without 'Men,' is Charlie Sheen winning or losing?



Charlie Sheen

By LYNN ELBER  
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES — Consider two parallel universes: Charlie Sheen is destined to hit rock bottom after being fired from the best job he'll ever have; Charlie Sheen has been freed to blaze a new path to dazzling fame and riches. Speculation about the dueling scenarios swelled after Warner Bros. Television said Monday that Sheen's services on "Two and a Half Men" had been terminated, effective immediately,

following careful consideration. The studio said it's yet to decide the fate of TV's top-rated comedy which, under protest from Sheen, halted production for the season to allow the hard-partying actor to seek treatment for acknowledged drug use. During his bitter tug-of-war with the studio, attention focused on whether he was on the verge of killing his career. Imperiling a hit show and a job that paid a reported \$1.8 million an episode or earning him north of \$43 million a year must be Sheen's undoing, some observers said. Not so fast, say others. "At this point, all bets are off regarding where his career goes from here," said Paul Levinson, a Fordham University media professor. "Although nothing is certain where fame and celebrity are concerned, Sheen's ubiquity in the past few weeks suggests that he could indeed go on to become a bigger superstar than the sitcom could ever have made him." □

*Not one more night:*

## Phil Collins calls it a day



Phil Collins

LONDON — Grammy-winning British pop star Phil Collins called it a day, but denied reports he was quitting because he no longer "fitted in" to the modern music scene. Collins, 60, said he was retiring because he wanted to spend more time with his family, but he complained on his official website that reports about his intentions in recent days had been "more than a little distorted." The Genesis drummer-turned-frontman who went on to sell more than 100 million albums as a solo artist said: "I am stopping so I can be a full-time father to my two young sons on a daily ba-

sis." He rejected suggestions he was quitting because of "dodgy reviews or bad treatment in the press" or because "I don't feel loved", adding: "I know I still have a very large fanbase that loves what I do. Thank you." Collins said suggestions in the press that he was stopping "because I don't fit in" were disproved by his album "Going Back" reaching number one in the British charts last year. He said reports about his state of mind had made him sound "like a tormented weirdo", but he reassured his fans: "There's no need for the straitjacket." London-born Collins is one of just three recording artists, along with Michael Jackson and Paul McCartney, who have sold over 100 million albums worldwide both as solo artists and separately as principal members of a band. □

*On Paris catwalks*

## Chanel smolders, Valentino grins

PARIS — Italian fashion brand Valentino said that 2011 had started well and fended off rumors it was preparing to put itself on the auction block. He said Valentino sales to date had been stronger than last year, but that it was too early for a full-year forecast. Staged under a tent in the Tuileries garden, Valentino's dresses were simple and truly ready-to-wear, verging toward a high street look rather than the theatrical designs which might not look as good on retail customers searching for wearable fashion as they do on a runway model in a glitzy show. Designers Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pier Paolo Piccioli unveiled close-fitting knit dresses with visible ribbing, a schoolgirl-ish flared coat in Prussian blue, and a series of evanescent floor-length gowns. Valentino shares private equity firm Permira as controlling shareholder with German fashion house Hugo Boss which was hived off from the Valentino Fashion Group when its debt was re-



Model presents creation

structured. The mood was distinctly more somber at Chanel where designer Karl Lagerfeld seemed to have been inspired by an apocalyptic future with a collection themed after volcanic landscapes. Rocks smoldered, the stage fumed and swirls of grey smoke wafted over an ash-strewn catwalk at Paris' Grand Palais, as Lagerfeld unveiled his dark vision for women's ready-to-wear near the end of an emotional week for the industry. Less beholden to Chanel's

archives than his past two shows collection featured a loose take on the brand's flared jacket now roomier, slanted down the front and rendered in heavy knit that nonetheless hewed closely to a seasonal trend for comfort-giving fabrics. Ubiquitous at Paris Fashion Week, capes and quilt-like materials were also on display at Chanel, where bulkier winter tops were offset by pencil-thin skinny trousers and heavy boots, lending the show a touch of London punk aesthetic. □

*Holy streaming, Batman!*

## 'Dark Knight' on Facebook



Dark Knight

WASHINGTON — Warner Bros. is bringing movie rentals to Facebook, the first Hollywood studio to turn to the fast-growing social network as an online platform for its films. "The Dark Knight," the 2008 Batman thriller directed by Christopher Nolan and starring Christian Bale, will be the first movie offered for rental on Facebook, the studio said, and can be watched at facebook.com/darkknight. The rental fee is 30 Facebook Credits, or \$3, and the movie can be viewed unlimited times during a 48-hour period, the

Time Warner-owned studio said in a statement. For the moment, only Facebook members in the United States can rent the movie. Hollywood studios have been looking at various services to distribute movies online, including Amazon, Netflix, Apple's iTunes, Hulu, YouTube and others, but Warner Bros. is the first to offer its film on Facebook, which has more than 500 million members around the world. Shares in Netflix, which offers movies and television shows to subscribers over the Internet, took a hit on the news of Warner Bros.' deal with Facebook and lost 5.76 percent to \$195.45 on Wall Street. Netflix shares also fell last month after the Seattle, Washington-based online retail giant Amazon launched its own movie and television show

streaming service. Warner Bros. described the Facebook move as an experiment but said additional movie titles will be available for rental and purchase on a regular basis "over the coming months." Warner Bros. said Facebook users will be able to comment on the movie, interact with friends and update their status while watching the film. Video is already hugely popular on Facebook with tens of millions of members swapping clips daily but little of the video currently being viewed is long-form content such as movies. Debra Aho Williamson, an analyst at eMarketer, said the movie rentals are an attempt by Facebook to broaden its revenue sources beyond advertising, which accounts for more than 90 percent of the social network's revenue. □



## Bejeweled Indian canopies to be auctioned in New York



Canopy is expected to sell when it goes

NEW YORK – A stunning, rarely seen bejeweled, nearly 150-year-old canopy from India is expected to sell for as much as \$5 million when it is auctioned next month, according to Sotheby's.

The Pearl Canopy of Baroda will go under the hammer on March 24 as part of a larger auction of Indian and Southeast Asian Works of Art in New York.

It includes over 500,000 pearls, as well as numerous diamonds, sapphires, rubies and emeralds sewn on silk. Floral "Persian-style" vines made with colored beads circle the canopy.

"The Maharaja was a great patron of the arts," said Mary Jo Otsea, the worldwide director of Sotheby's carpet department. "This piece is a continuation of the golden age of Indian art from the Mughal period, with Persian influences." □

### International Women's Day

## Daniel Craig dons dress



Daniel Craig

Daniel Craig appears in a maximum-impact short film about sexual equality launched for International Women's Day March 8, 2011, directed by filmmaker and artist Sam Taylor-Wood. Craig portrays his character Bond, appearing in a suit, spoken to by Judy Dench as his superior "M," who challenges Bond to ponder inequality between the sexes.

Bond, who is completely quiet during the film, then leaves and returns in a knee-length dress, blond wig, makeup and earrings, later removing his wig as the film ends asking the public to support the cam-

paign on wearequals.org.

The short film raises several important issues, such as women being paid less, losing their jobs if they become pregnant and being victimized in violence, often by current or former spouses. In that vein, I feel that Daniel Craig's small sacrifice in compromising his masculinity for an important cause should be lauded. That being said, Craig has joined the infamous ranks of celebrities who dressed in drag for various reasons.

But what about women celebrities getting dressed in drag as men? Women in drag include the ranks of Annie Lennox, Diane Keaton, and Isabella Rossellini - each unique and confident in their androgynous dress yet maintaining their femininity!

Annie Lennox, singer and social and political activist, who founded the EQUALS coalition which this short Taylor-Wood film supports, often dresses in mannish suits and hats. □

*Kate vs. Catherine;*

## The royal name dilemma

BELFAST, Northern Ireland – Call her Kate, at least for now. It may be years before Kate Middleton becomes queen, but questions are already being raised about the princess-to-be's preferred moniker: Queen Kate or Queen Catherine?

Ever since her engagement became official in November, palace officials and her fiancé, Prince William have taken to calling her Catherine, the name used on the official, gold-embossed invitations to their nuptials at Westminster Abbey on April 29.

But Middleton herself may not embrace the change just yet.

During a joint visit with Prince William to Northern Ireland, Middleton mentioned casually that she thinks of herself primarily as Kate.

The "Kate" versus "Catherine" debate has emerged in recent weeks because of William's switch in using it and because "Catherine" or the initial "C" is being imprinted on official wedding memorabilia and commemorative china.

He said Kate also sounds pleasant but reminds him of the feisty character in "Kiss Me Kate," a Cole Porter musical that features William Shakespeare's play "The Taming of the Shrew."

According to the official royal wedding website, which has already received more than 2 million visits since it started up last week, Middleton does not prefer one name over the other. It says Middleton used the name "Catherine" when she was growing up with her family but tends to use the more casual "Kate" in her professional life.

Most of the British media still calls her "Kate," and headline writers are not expected to change.

A spokeswoman for Prince Charles, who declined to be named according to palace protocol, would not comment on Middleton's statement in Belfast. But she noted that Middleton's family and friends call her "Catherine"



Prince William, Kate Middleton visit Northern Ireland

and that is her real name.

The late Princess Diana, William's mother, also had an informal nickname "Lady Di" that was too casual for formal court affairs, where she was

called Her Royal Highness, The Princess of Wales. After her death, she became known as "The People's Princess," a phrase coined by then-Prime Minister Tony Blair. □



Musician Robbie Robertson, of Canada

### Rocker Robbie

## Robertson set to write memoirs

LOS ANGELES – Rocker Robbie Robertson is about to add "author" to his lengthy list of professional activities.

The former frontman for The Band said he will start penning his memoirs in a few months following a couple of aborted attempts with ghost writers. The Canadian rocker hopes the book will come out within two years through Random House.

"I'm very excited about doing it," Robertson told Reuters, while getting ready for the April 5 release of his first solo album in 13 years. "I just have to roll up my sleeves, get a cabin in the woods and do it properly."

He said he considered collaborating on the project with highly regarded writers on three separate occasions. But it quickly dawned on the raconteur that he could do a better job of telling his stories about the rise and fall of The Band, and his work with the likes of Bob Dylan and Martin Scorsese. Not only will it be a solo endeavor, but he is also leaving untouched a hefty pile of memoirs by the likes of Dylan, Keith Richards, Patti Smith and former bandmate Levon Helm.

"I keep thinking, is it good for me to look at these, or is there just a pure innocence about me just going into this? I don't know if I want to know what somebody else did in their thing. But I do have a structure that I've started to sort out in mind." □



# Burning Your Momo – by Carlos Viana

Throughout the festivities of Carnival, the party seems as if it will go on forever. Our community just burned this year's carnival Momo. Traditionally the Momo is black because in pagan religions Momo or that year's "king" absorbs all the sins of the community and dies taking their sins with him. The community expunged from all wrongs is then able to begin anew with a fresh beginning, symbolized by spring. With the burning of Momo, we are reminded that life is ever changing and that all things eventually must end.

The most profound change for each of us is our own end, or the reality of human mortality. The United States currently has the greatest number of centenarians (People living to 100 or more) in the world. There are different theories as to why certain cultures have longer life expectancies than others, but one would expect that since the United States spends more on health care than other nations, the life expectancy would reflect that spending. However, the United States ranks only 24th on the list of disability-adjusted life expectancy while Japan ranks first. This means that there are more centenarians living in Japan based on population and they are living healthier with less medical intervention.

Many experts attribute Japan's high life expectancy to their diet, which is low in fats. There must be something to island life because here in the Caribbean, the Island of Barbados has the third-highest occurrence of centenarians in the world. There are obviously other factors involved in living to be 100 years old or more. Studies show that one significant influence contributing to rapid aging is high insulin levels. Look at the insulin/diabetes problems spreading worldwide and how it is affecting the way we age.

Ironically, even though most people express an interest in living to their maximum potential, many refuse to use the available methods that are sure to slow down aging. One thing is for sure, that the effects of bad lifestyle are cumulative. This means, the more you do something unhealthy, the more it hurts you. So, during this time of "rebirth" how about starting a longevity program?

If you want to increase your chances of living a longer, healthier life, one of the first things you should do is quit smoking, including

breathing second hand smoke. Acupuncture offers natural treatments for smoking and other addictions. Next, get on a healthy eating plan. Our clinic's holistic health program starts with the elimination, or at least a large reduction, of most grains and sugars from your diet. Consuming simple or processed sugar and grains, especially wheat products like bread and pasta, will increase your insulin levels. That is the equivalent of slamming your foot on the aging accelerator. Eating right for your metabolic type, which incidentally, is your blood type, will also help to optimize your anti-aging program.

Like the Japanese, medical researchers have known for years that eating fish was associated with reduced risk of cardiovascular disease. Eating oily fish like salmon, tuna or bluefish at least twice a week is healthy because fatty acids in the fish block dangerous irregular heart rhythms. Fish oil is another factor in helping people live longer, and many experts believe that it is likely the predominant reason why the Japanese are the longest lived race on the planet. For those of us, who don't eat enough fresh fish, supplements are a way to insure we get enough of the healthy fats or Omega 3's found in fish. However, when choosing a fish oil, it is important to use a high quality brand that ensures that its oils are free of mercury and other toxins. If you are just beginning on a diet and supplement program, it is a good idea to begin with a quality EFA (Essential Fatty Acid) or Omega Oil product containing all 3 Omega oils, Omega 3, 6 and 9 in the right ratio. Flaxseed Oil is a good choice for vegetarians.

Young people feel like they will live forever, and therefore eat poorly and engage in risky behavior leading to illness and sometimes early mortality. Even kids, teens and young adults can benefit from a healthy lifestyle plan. Learning good habits early leads to a better quality of life later.

After age 35, cardiovascular disease and cancer are the leading causes of death. Studies presented at a meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research showed that supplements - ranging from ordinary multivitamins to specially formulated, natural products can have a positive impact combating disease.

Other foods that have been shown to



slow down aging are most fruits and vegetables and a component in red wine, known as resveratrol. These are rich in antioxidants that have anti-aging effects. Sardines have RNA that helps you rebuild your body.

The Evercare poll of 100 Contrarians found that their most important secrets to healthy aging were, staying close to friends and family, laughing and having a sense of humor, keeping the mind active, having something to look forward to each day, maintaining independence, exercising, spirituality, eating right, keeping up with current events, and continuing to make new friends.

Get the Point! Your nutritional and lifestyle sins are hanging around your waist, showing on your face and costing you vitality. You can "burn your candle at both ends" or do something to slow down aging. Maybe now is a good time to hook up with a Clinical Nutritionist. We can help you burn your sins and start anew with personal long, healthy, life plan.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)

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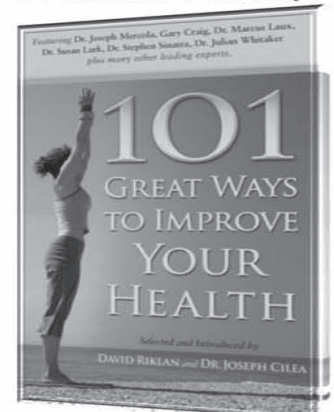


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# Nicaragua y Costa Rica acatarán fallo de La Haya

SAN JOSE (AP) - La presidenta costarricense expresó satisfacción porque el fallo emitido el martes por la Corte Internacional de Justicia refleja las peticiones más importantes que su país formuló, mientras que Nicaragua consideró que ganó el caso y anunció una nueva demanda contra Costa Rica.

“Las medidas a favor de Costa Rica han superado nuestras expectativas... hoy se confirma que nuestra estrategia de defensa fue la correcta acudiendo a las instancias que correspondían y que nuestra apuesta por el derecho y la justicia es la correcta”, manifestó la mandataria costarricense Laura Chinchilla.

El agente de Nicaragua en la Corte Carlos Argüello dijo que el veredicto es “un triunfo rotundo de Nicaragua” y anunció que su país “pasará a la ofensiva” en una demanda contra ese país.

Pero Chinchilla señaló que “las diferencias de fondo persisten... Nicaragua insiste en que isla Portillo le pertenece y los costarricenses sabemos que es y siempre ha sido nues-

tra. Aquí persiste el fondo del conflicto jurídico sobre el que en meses o años fallará la Corte”, manifestó.

“Ahora podemos esperar ese fallo sin fuerzas extranjeras en nuestro territorio y sin daños ambientales”, añadió, en referencia a que la Corte ordenó el retiro de todas las fuerzas de ambos países (Costa Rica no tiene ejército) de las márgenes del límite río San Juan. En rueda de prensa posterior a su discurso, Chinchilla indicó que si Nicaragua no cumple las recomendaciones de la Corte “tenemos la posibilidad de recurrir al Consejo de Seguridad”. El canciller costarricense René Castro dijo desde La Haya que analizarán “el fallo y la forma en que será implementado, de forma inmediata”.

Argüello expresó que “ha sido una grande y contundente victoria de Nicaragua. La Corte nos ha dado toda la razón en cuanto a que ratificó nuestro derecho a seguir dragando el río”, según declaraciones transmitidas por el oficialista Canal 4 de la televisión local.



El embajador nicaraguense Carlos Argüello, segundo de la derecha, conversa con un miembro de su equipo legal, mientras el canciller de Costa Rica, René Castro Salazar se ve al fondo, tercero de la izquierda, a la espera del fallo de la Corte Internacional de Justicia de La Haya, en Holanda, el martes 8 de marzo del 2011. (Foto AP/Peter Dejong).

Dijo que se reunirá con el presidente Daniel Ortega, para recibir instrucciones respecto a la demanda que Nicaragua presentará contra Costa Rica próximamente. No dio detalles. Afirmó que con la reso-

lución del tribunal “hemos paralizado la ofensiva de Costa Rica”, “aunque no resuelve el asunto de fondo”. Tampoco dio detalles.

La Corte acotó que Costa Rica puede y debe enviar desde su

territorio, personal de Ambiente, con el fin de proteger el humedal que existe en la zona. El caso seguirá en manos de la Corte, donde una sentencia final podría tardar varios años. □

*Presidente Alan García:*

## Perú sin problemas limítrofes pendientes con Ecuador

LIMA (AP) - El presidente Alan García dijo el martes que Perú no tiene ningún problema limítrofe pendiente con Ecuador, cuando el país vecino se apresta a presentar su Carta Náutica precisando los límites marítimos con Perú ante las Naciones Unidas. Ecuador está a la espera de que el gobierno peruano se pronuncie sobre la carta náutica ecuatoriana.

“Su carta náutica todavía no la hemos visto en el mapa, en el plano, pero en principio está dentro de los lineamientos que siempre hemos respetado con Ecuador”, declaró García durante una visita de trabajo en la región de Lambayeque.

El mandatario señaló que en el caso de Ecuador, Perú reconoce el criterio del paralelo para la delimitación marítima por la existencia de islas, pero no en el caso de la frontera marítima con Chile, donde Perú pretende que rija el criterio de la línea equidistante al ángulo que forman las costas peruanas y chilenas.

“Nosotros hemos dicho siempre que con Ecuador no tenemos ningún problema limítrofe, y como tal ha sido aceptado y señalado; el caso

es totalmente diferente al del sur; tenemos una línea de paralelo, porque existen islas, y siempre hemos respetado eso y lo seguiremos respetando”, dijo García.

Perú demandó a Chile en enero del 2008 ante la Corte Internacional de Justicia (CIJ) de La Haya, alegando una controversia por los límites marítimos y ha pedido a ese tribunal que dirima en el caso.

Perú sostiene que los límites marítimos con su vecino sureño nunca fueron fijados, en tanto Chile afirma que los límites marítimos entre Perú, Chile y Ecuador quedaron definidos en dos tratados internacionales de 1952 y 1954.

La CIJ notificó a Ecuador respecto del litigio peruano-chileno, pero no es obligatorio que este país intervenga en el contencioso.

El gobierno ecuatoriano dijo que no veía la necesidad de participar en el litigio, siempre y cuando Perú reconozca la carta náutica ecuatoriana como una prueba de que los límites marítimos entre ambos países son plenamente reconocidos por el estado peruano. □

## Demandarían a EEUU por experimentos con sífilis

MIAMI (AP) - Abogados que representan a miles de guatemaltecos que fueron afectados por los experimentos de sífilis realizados por Estados Unidos hace décadas informaron el martes que demandarán a las más altas autoridades federales de salud a menos que se llegue a un arreglo fuera de las cortes para compensar los reclamos de las víctimas o sus sobrevivientes.

La decisión vino después de las revelaciones que se hicieron el año pasado acerca de que científicos estadounidenses, para estudiar los efectos de la penicilina en la década de 1940, deliberadamente infectaron a unos 700 guatemaltecos, entre ellos prisioneros, pacientes mentales, soldados y huérfanos, algunos incluso de seis años de edad, de acuerdo con los abogados. Ninguno fue informado o dio su consentimiento.

El equipo estadounidense convenció a las autoridades de los orfanatos y prisiones de cooperar a cambio de darles artículos como refrigeradores y medicinas difíciles de conseguir para la malaria y la epilepsia. Otros individuos recibieron cigarros a cambio y, en el caso de los prisioneros, se emplearon prostitutas infectadas para exponerlos a la enfermedad, de acuerdo con documentos de la corte. Dos firmas de abogados informaron en una carta enviada al secretario de justicia Eric Holder que la demanda, la cual podría convertirse en una acción colectiva, será interpuesta en una corte federal en Washington a menos que el gobierno del presidente Barack Obama responda positivamente a la oferta de acuerdo para el viernes. □



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